Emma

7

Kaoru Mori

BUCKINGHAM PALACE 1896

Emma

7

Kaoru Mori

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TWO SHILLINGS.

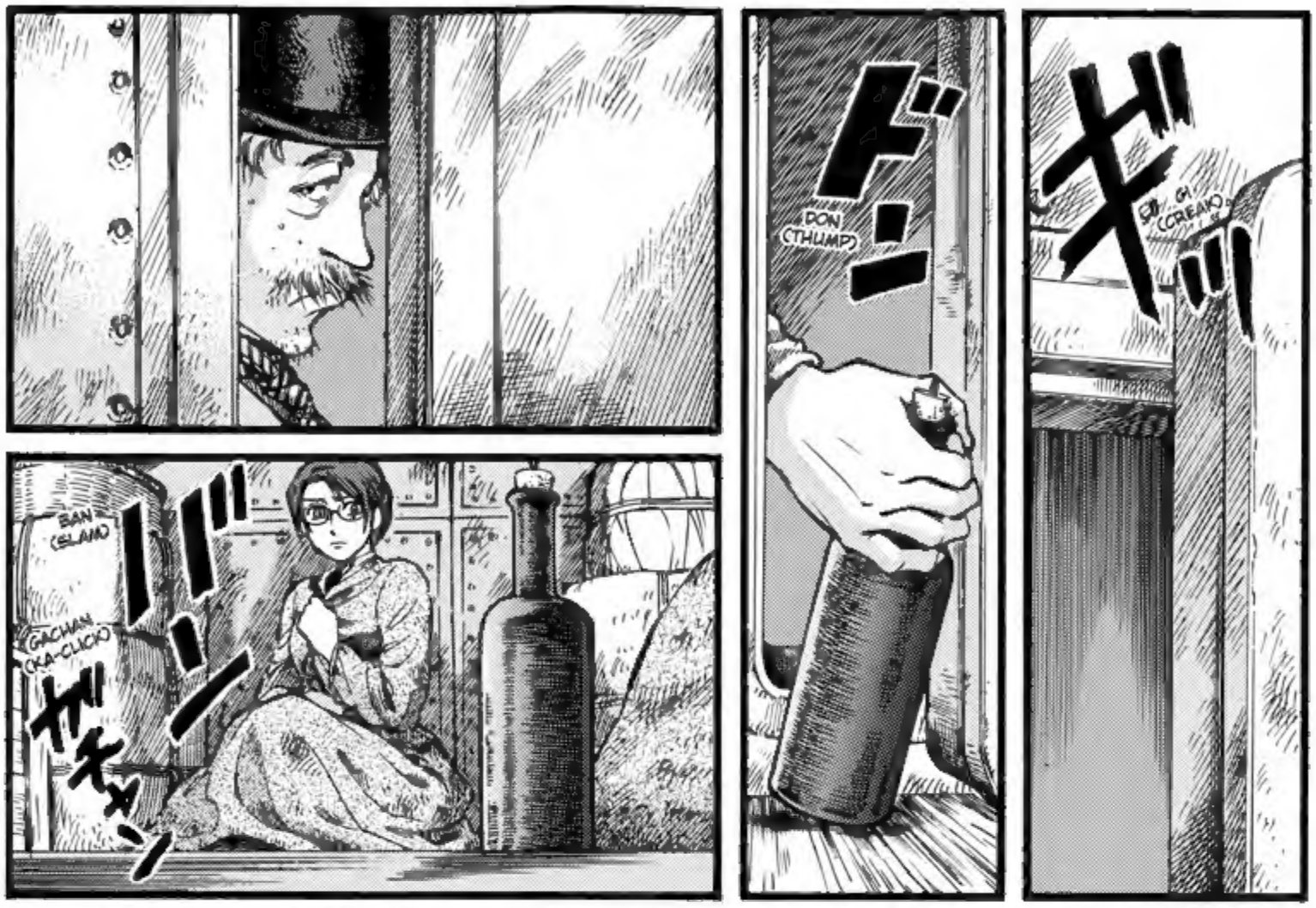
FINE, TWO SHIL-LINGS, AND THEN BE ON YOUR WAY.

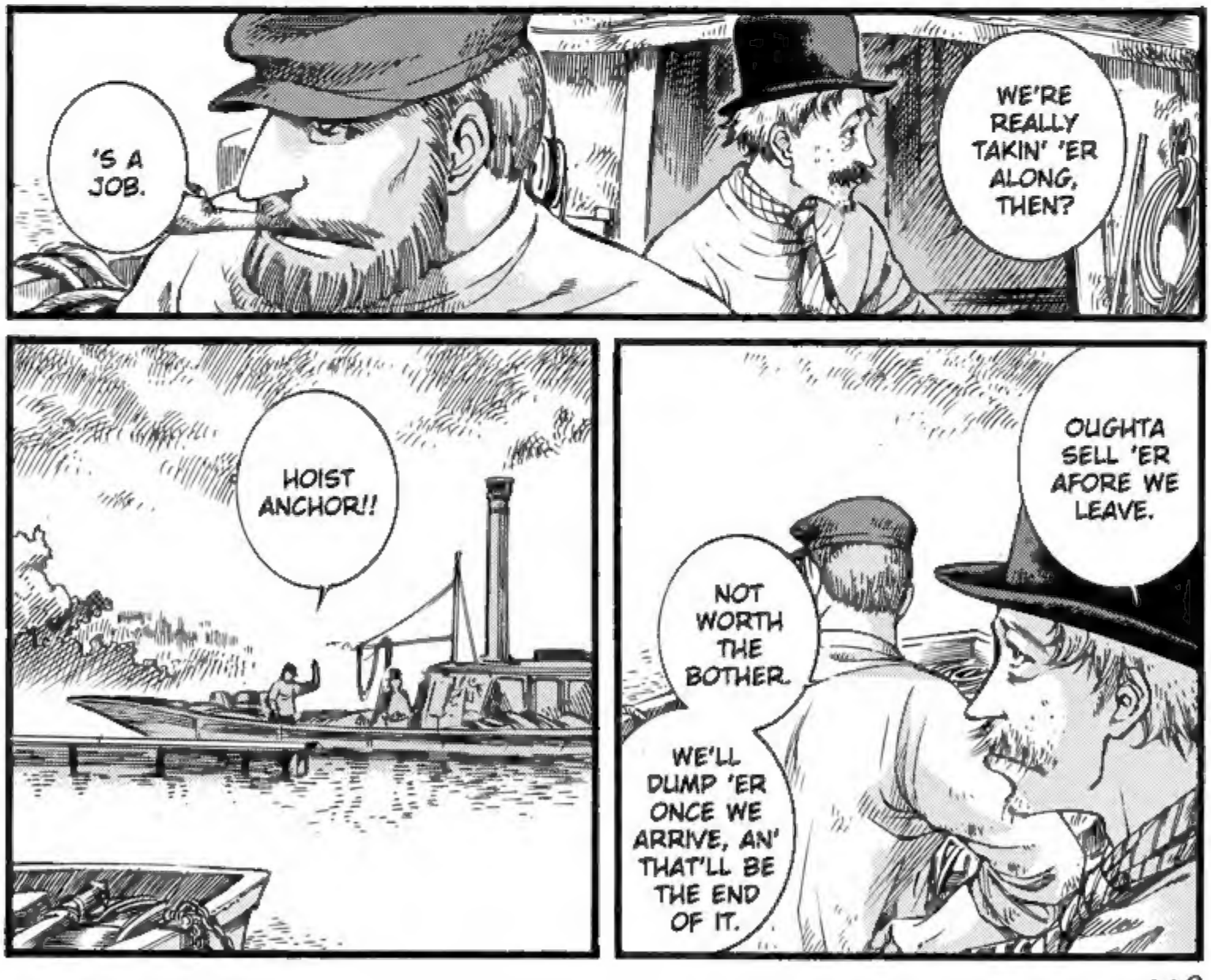
'ARDLY YOUR SUNDAY BEST, IS IT?
'OW MUCH MORE YOU THINK YOUR GONNA GET FOR IT?
BIT STINGY, INNIT?

HUSH!
JUST KEEP WALKIN'.
JUS' LOOKIT THIS!
YOU DID IT, MOTHER!

Chapter 44:
The Dawn

カーン
KAN (CLANG)
カーン
KAN
カーン
KAN


ギィ
GII... GI (CREAK)
ドン
DON (THUMP)
BAN (SLAM)
GACHAN (KA-CLICK)
ギィ


'S A JOB.
WE'RE REALLY TAKIN' 'ER ALONG, THEN?
HOIST ANCHOR!!
OUGHTA SELL 'ER AFORE WE LEAVE.
NOT WORTH THE BOTHER.
WE'LL DUMP 'ER ONCE WE ARRIVE, AN' THAT'LL BE THE END OF IT.

"VIS-
COUNT.

"ONE AFTERNOON NEXT WEEK I WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON YOU AT YOUR HOME.

"IF YOU WILL PERMIT THIS VISIT, NO ANSWER IS NECES-SARY."

KON (KNOCK)
KON
KON

GIVE IT HERE!

A REPLY!?

...SO IT WOULD SEEM.

...VERY WELL, SIR.

DELIVER THIS...

...TO MISS CAMPBELL.

WAIT.

STEVENS!!

BASA (FLAP)

BASA

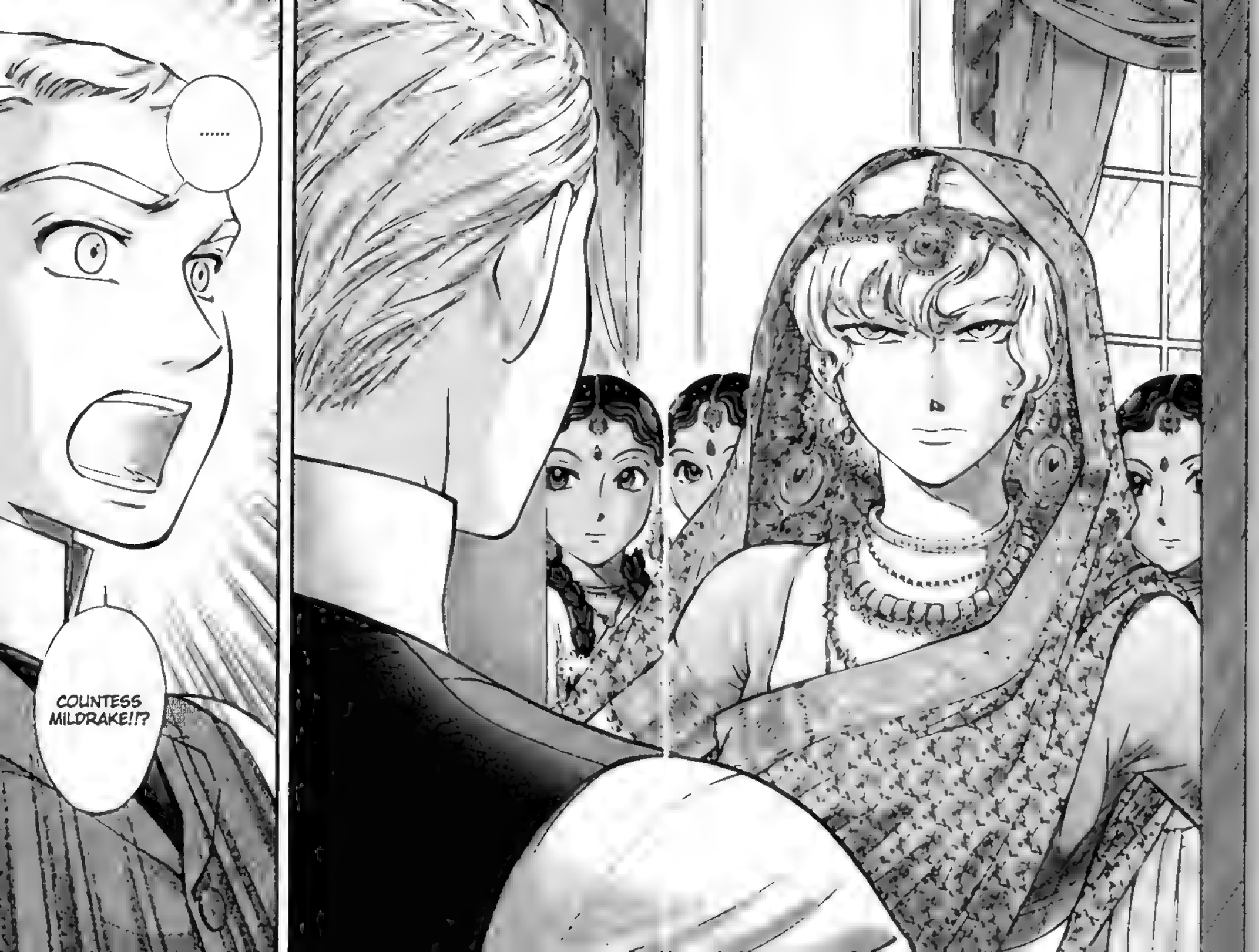
DI (PWIP)

チャ!!

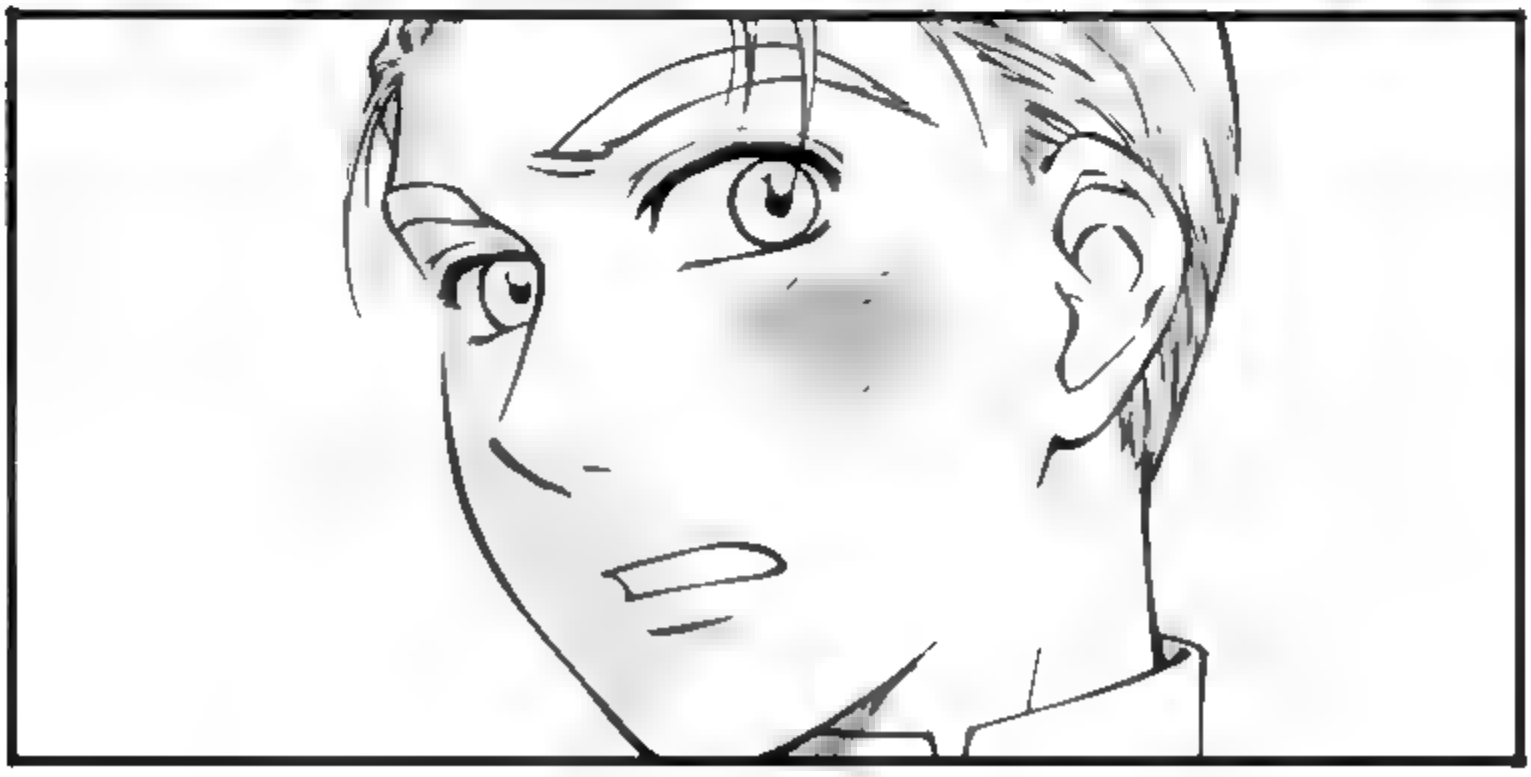
CHA

STE—

?


.....
COUNTESS MILDRAKE!!?

110
PAN
(SLAP)



.....

PAN

NOW, TELL ME THE TRUTH.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY ELEANOR!?

EH?

.. AND WHAT SHOULD I FIND BUT ELEANOR IN TEARS!

WHO BUT YOU COULD MAKE HER SO!?

I HAD A NASTY FEELING SOMETHING WAS AFOOT, SO I RETURNED HOME...

WHATEVER THE EXCUSE, YOU WILL HAVE TO ANSWER TO ME!!

IF YOU HAVE SOME DEFENSE FOR YOURSELF, I WOULD FAIN HEAR IT.

!!

RE-TURNED HOME ...?

THEN...

.....

HAKIM!!

I HAD NOTHING BUT I'D DO, SO I DELIVERED HER HERE.

THAT'S RIGHT.

DID YOU COME BY BOAT!?

HAKIM!

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT!?

I'M WAITING FOR YOUR RESPONSE !!

WAIT!!

I APOLOGISE, BUT I HAVEN'T THE TIME RIGHT NOW TO EXPLAIN EVERY-THING!

LET'S SAVE THIS CONVERSA-TION FOR A LATER DATE!!

LEND IT TO ME!!

フッ!!

FINE

I'LL BE BACK!!

I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY!

YOU'RE A COWARD, WILLIAM JONES!!!

WHENEVER THINGS DON'T GO YOUR WAY, YOU RUN AWAY!

Chapter 44: End

SHAN
SHAN
SHAN

WHO IS THAT?
EH?
WHY... I DON'T KNOW...

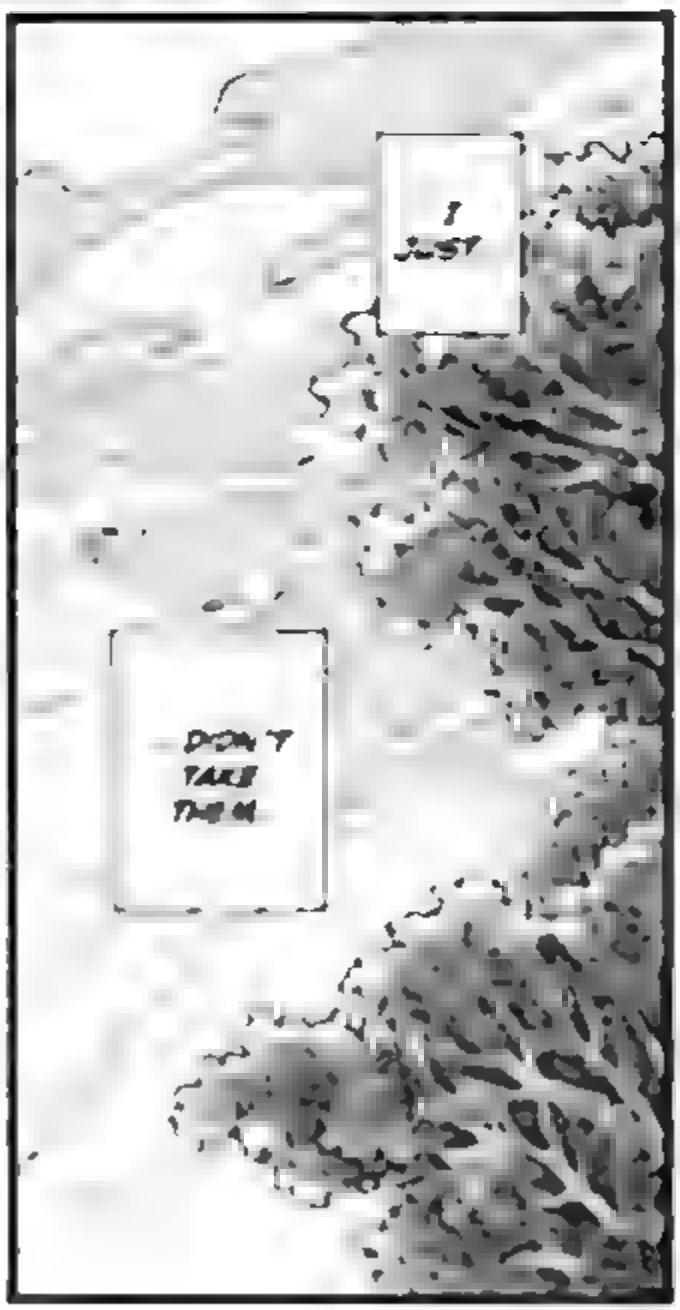
MISS GRACE?
OH .. YES.
EH?

THERE'S NO ESCAPING FROM ME, WILLIAM JONES!
REMEMBER THAT!

ELEANOR HAS TOLD ME ALL ABOUT YOU!
I DO HOPE YOU SHALL REMAIN THE BEST OF FRIENDS WITH HER.
YES, CERTAINLY... I CERTAINLY HOPE THAT WE MAY.....
...YES.

I HAD ANY NUMBER OF OPPOR-TUNITIES

I TRULY HAD ANY NUMBER OF OPPOR-TUNITIES

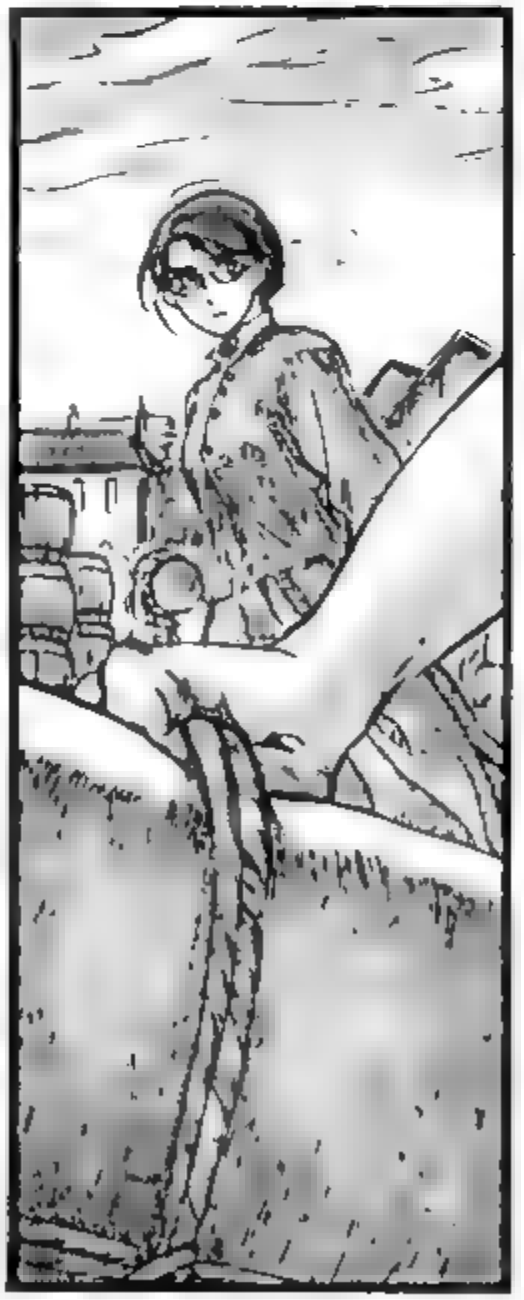

I JUST
DON'T TAKE THEM

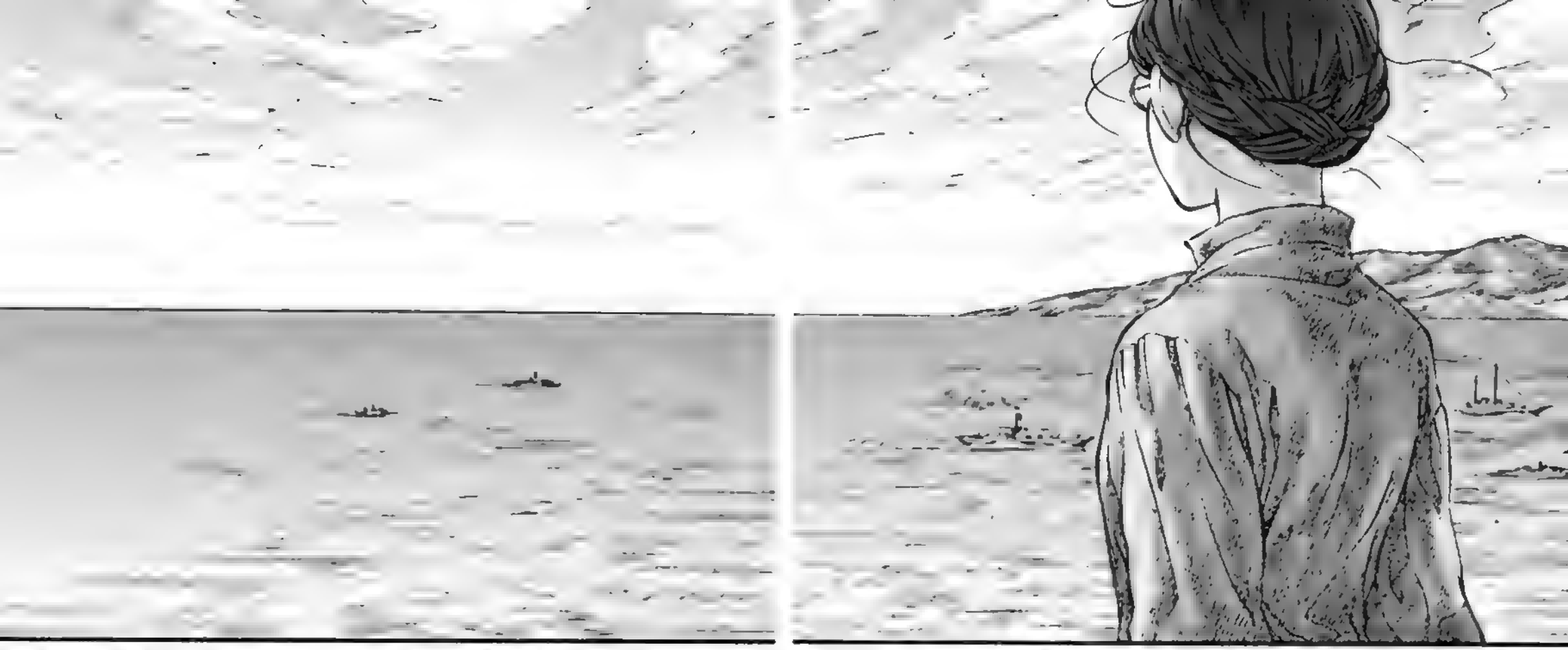
Chapter 45:
The New World

GET OUT.
GACHA GACHAK

DO
CRUMBS
ドッ

ON WITH YE!
YOU'RE IN THE WAY.





FAMILIAR SCENERY.

FAMILIAR SENSA-TIONS.

I HAD ANY NUMBER OF OPPORTUNITES...

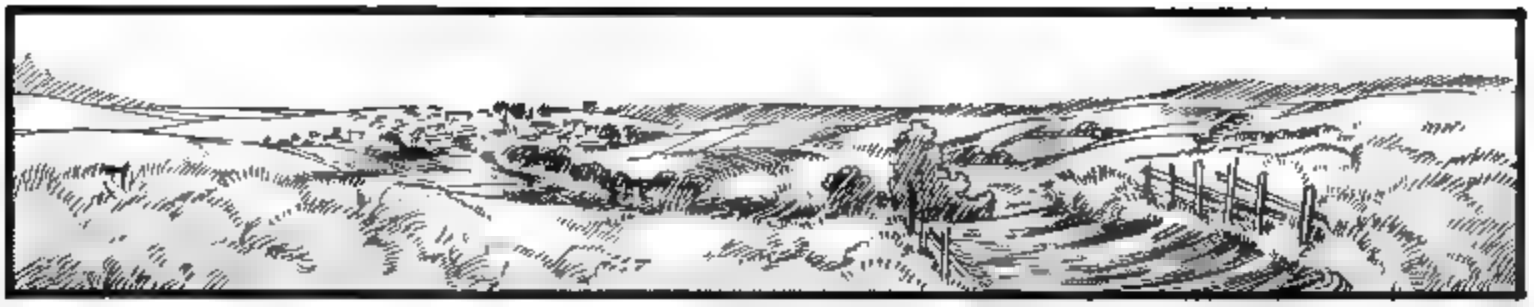
BEFORE ARRIVING HERE...

TO ATTEMPT AN ESCAPE

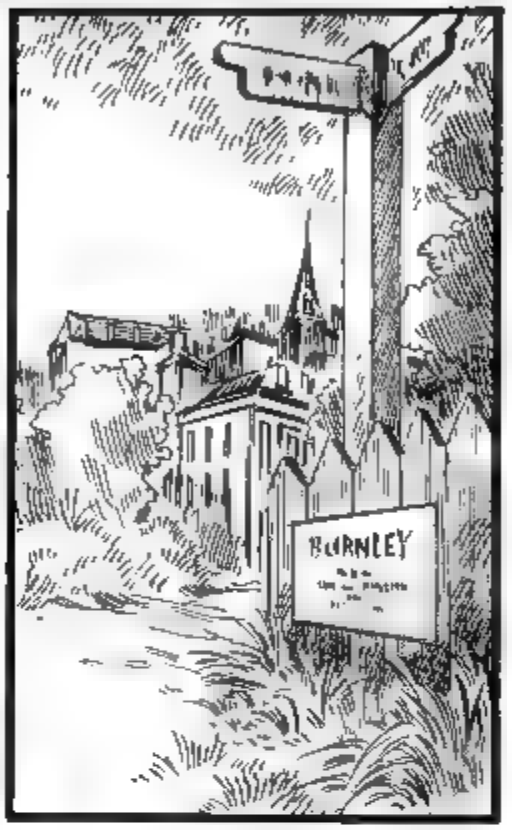
. DIDN'T TAKE THEM.

. WHY, I WONDER ?

I JUST..



I'M AFRAID I CAN'T RECALL THE PARTICULARS OF ALL ME PASSEN-GERS...
'AT'S RIGHT. MY CART'S THE ONLY ONE'LL GO AS FAR AS LIVER-POOL.


BURNLEY

A YOUNG GIRL, TRAVELIN' ALONE? I THINK THAT'D STICK IN THE 'EAD.
...THOUGH I THINK I CAN SAFELY SAY SHE WEREN'T ONE OF 'EM.

EVEN A GLANCE WOULD BE FINE.
DO YOU REMEMBER ANYONE RESEMBLING THAT DESCRIP-TION?
HMM...

HAS ANYONE LIKE THAT BEEN HERE?
I SEE A LOT OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY, SIR, AND AT A GLANCE, MOSTLY.

DARK HA.R?
WEARING GLASSES?
A YOUNG WOMAN?

PLEASE!
SHALL I CHECK THE REGISTER?

.....
I'M AFRAID SHE'S NOT LISTED.
NO, SHE HASN'T BEEN HERE.
WHY DON'T YOU DISTRIBUTE NOTICES?

...SAYING THAT YOU'RE SEARCH-ING FOR EMMA.
SEND THEM OUT ALL OVER THE COUNTRY...
LET'S GO TO OUR NEXT STOP.
IF I COULD DO THAT, I WOULD.

WHEN WE MET AT THE MANSION IN LONDON...

WHEN HE CAME TO VISIT ME IN HAWORTH...

I HAD ANY NUMBER OF OPPORTUNITIES TO WITHDRAW FROM OUR RELATIONSHIP.

WHEN HE SENT ME LETTERS THERE...

IF ONLY I HAD WITHDRAWN THEN.

A SUITABLE PARTNER.

AT THE TIME, HE HAD A FIANCÉE.

"PLEASE, YOU SHOULD FORGET ABOUT ME.

I COULD HAVE TOLD HIM, "NO, DON'T DO THAT.

...WHEN HE TOLD ME HE WAS GOING TO CALL OFF HIS ENGAGE-MENT?

WHY DIDN'T I SAY ANY-THING...

WHY DIDN'T I TELL HIM THAT?

"OUR SOCIAL POSITIONS ARE JUST TOO ILL-MATCHED."

THAT'S WHY I SHOULD HAVE...

...A MAID WHO DOESN'T KNOW HER PLACE...

A TROUBLE-MAKER WHO PERSISTENTLY PRESSES HER ATTENTIONS ON HIM...

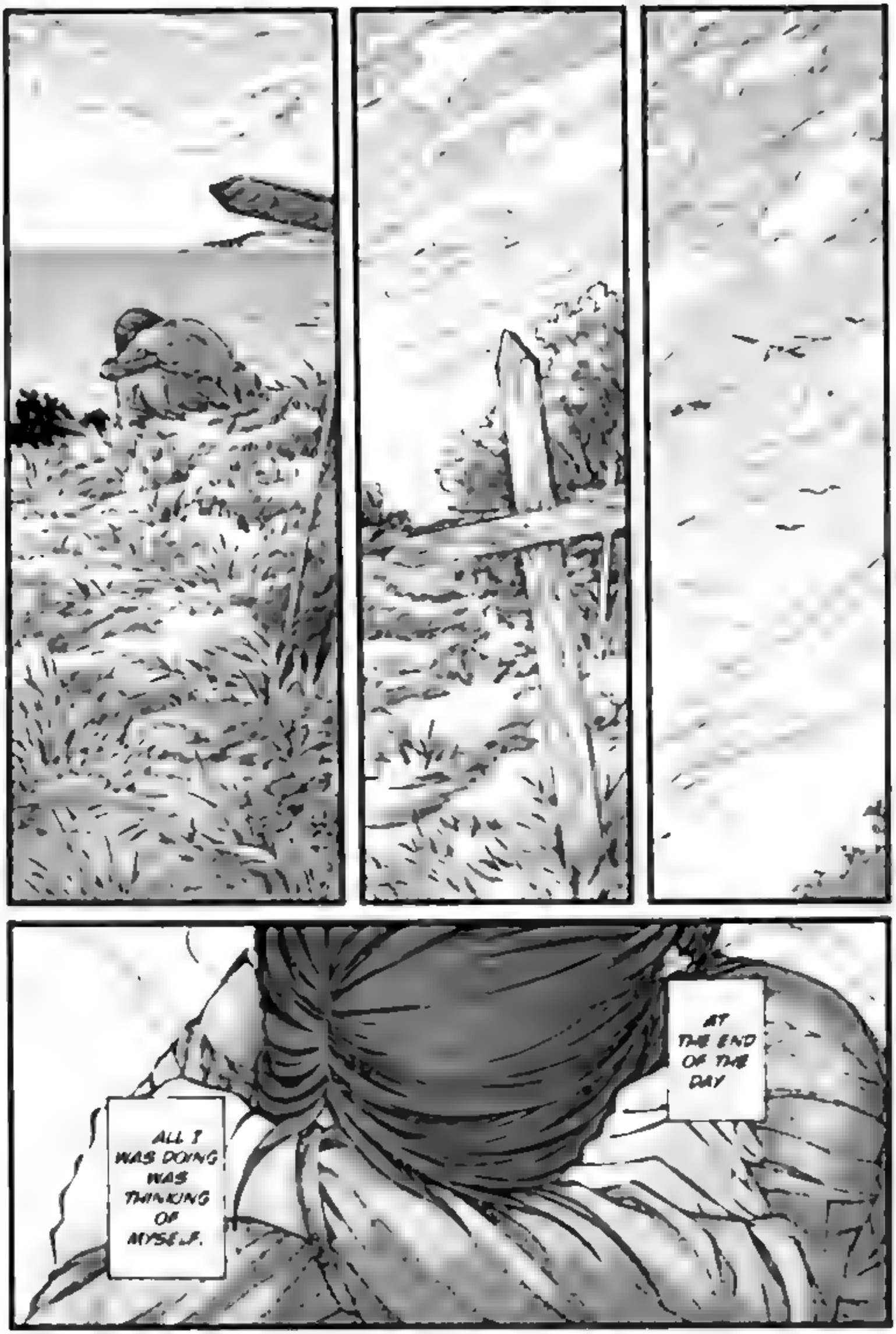
THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE BELIEVES ME TO BE...

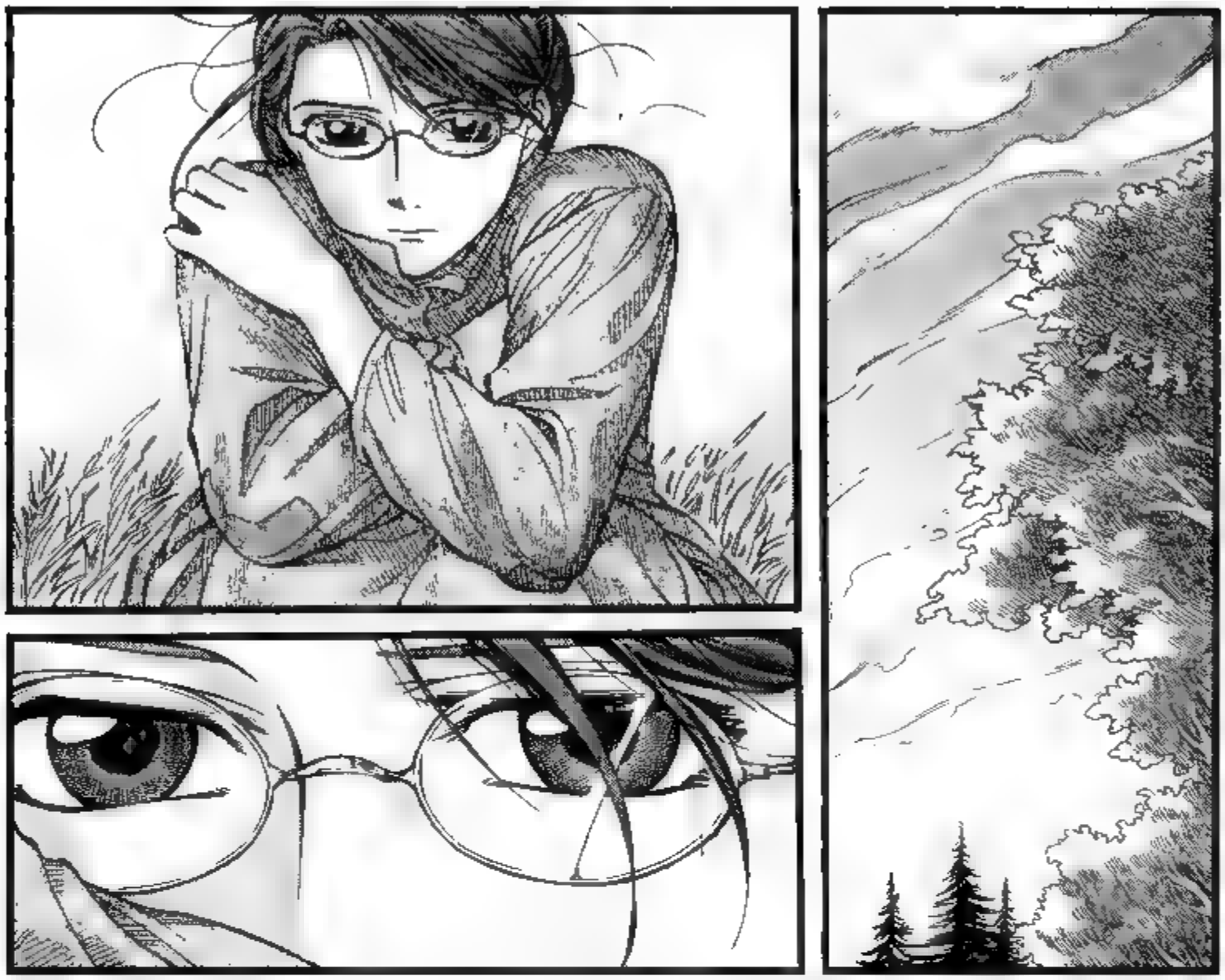
BECAUSE I LOVE HIM!!

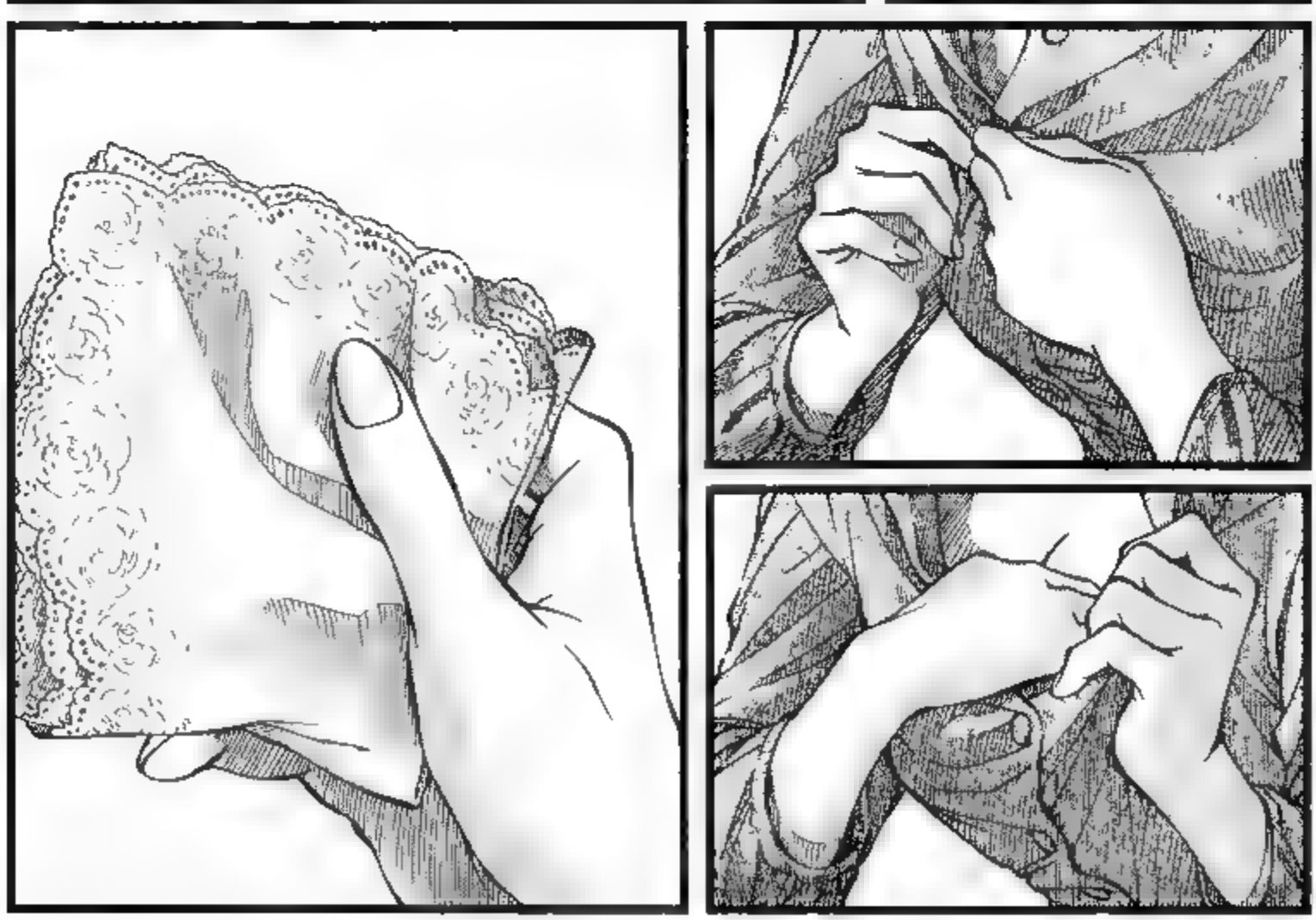
BECAUSE I WAS HAPPY.

I WAS THRILLED TO BE ABLE TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS TO THE MAN I LOVED.

I WAS ELATED. THE ONE I LOVED ALSO LOVED ME IN RETURN.


AT THE END OF THE DAY
ALL I WAS DOING WAS THINKING OF MYSELF.





AYE, I'VE SEEN A FEW WOMEN LIKE THAT.

SHE WORE GLASS-ES?

LATELY, WE'VE BEEN GETTING MANY SIGHT-SEERS.

OH, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TELL YE THAT.

EH? AND SHE WASN'T FROM AROUND HERE?

IT SEEMS SHE'S NOT HERE.

THANK YOU.

.....

...WELL, YOU'LL PROBABLY HAVE A RIGHT DEVIL OF A TIME FINDING HER.

IF YOU DON'T FIND HER HERE...

HERE ARE ALL OF THE PASSENGER LISTS I HAVE FOR THIS PORT.

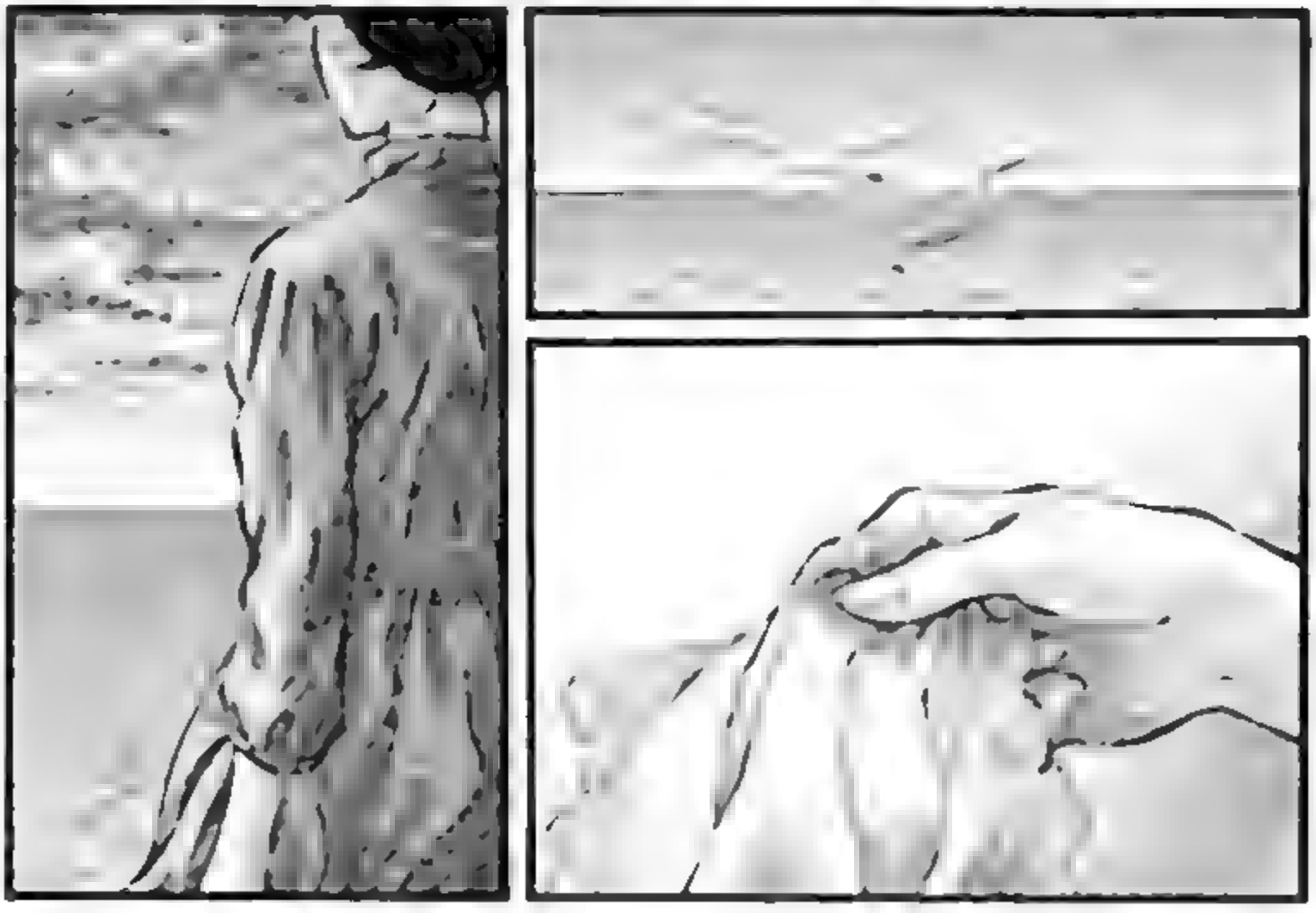
...AREN'T KEPT VERY WELL, I'M AFRAID.

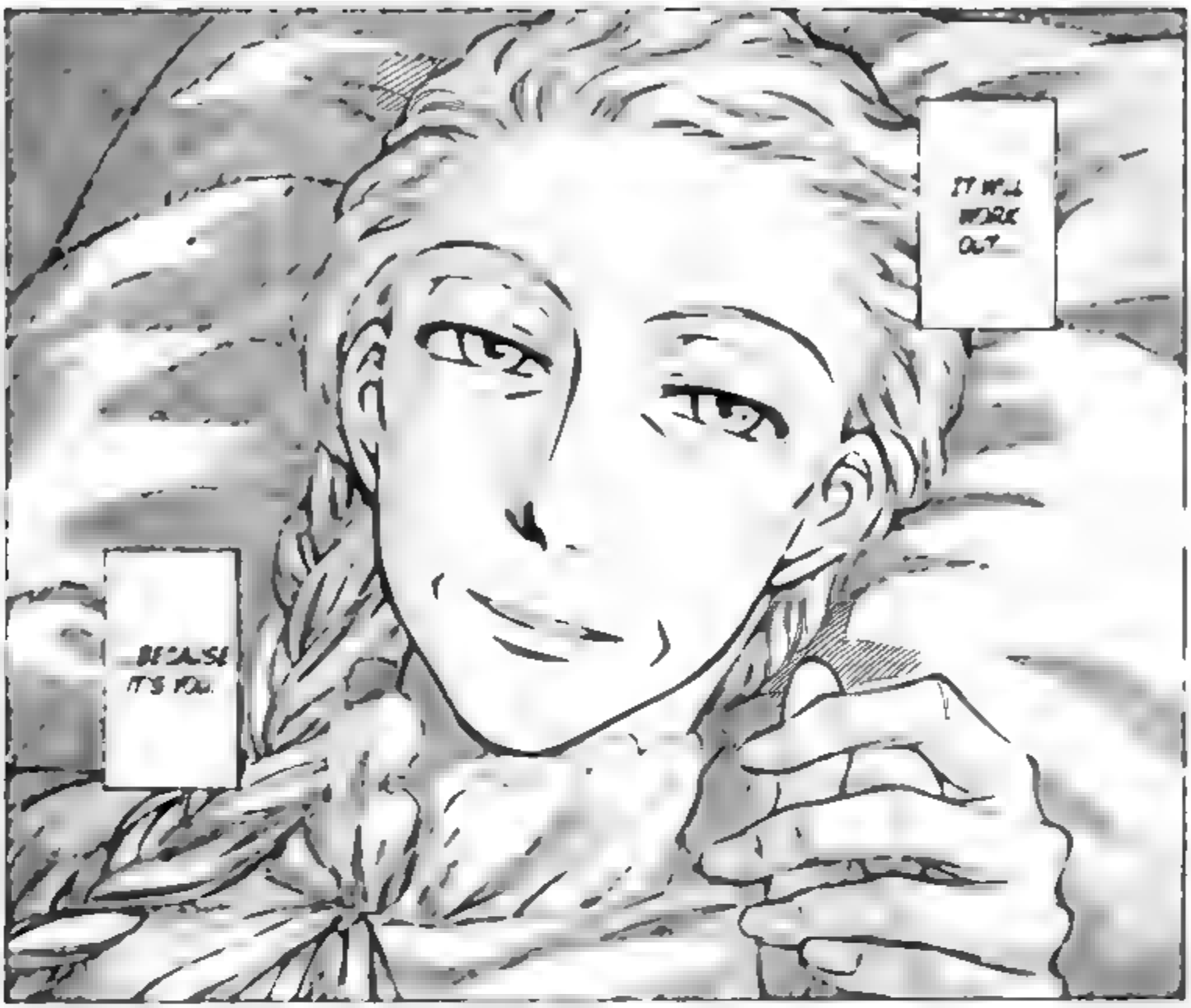
RECORDS OF SMALL, PRIVATE SHIPS...

HAKIM.

HOW MANY DAYS DOES IT TAKE...

...TO GET TO AMERICA?




IT WILL WORK OUT
BECAUSE IT'S YOU

SOME-HOW OR OTHER
I'LL MAKE A LIVING
THERE'S WORK TO BE HAD
WHERE THERE ARE PEOPLE
SO NO MATTER WHERE I SLEEP, I WON'T FREEZE TO DEATH
THE CLIMATE IS WARM
I HAVE THE SKILLS TAUGHT TO ME BY MY FORMER MISTRESS
AND UNLIKE WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED IN LONDON

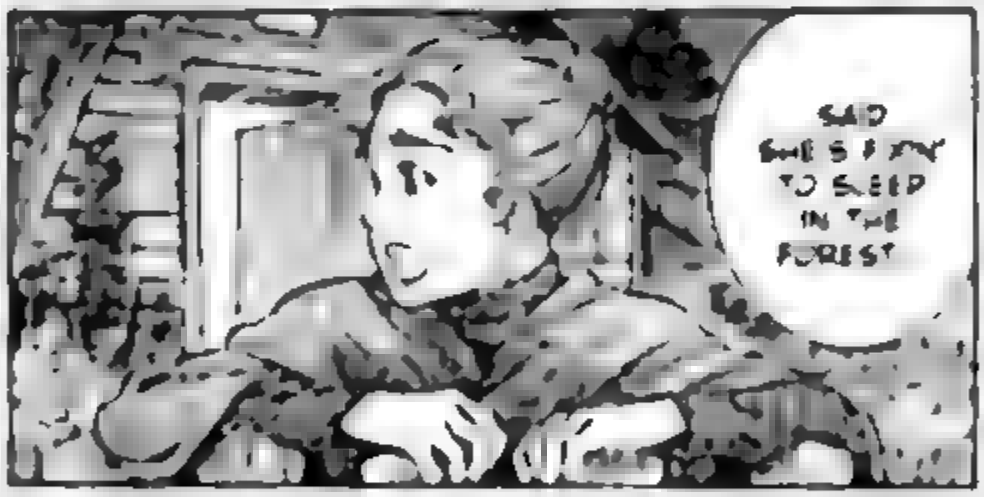
Chapter 45: End

SHE'S RUN AWAY FROM HOME OR SOMETHIN' LIKE SAYS SHE'S LOOKIN' FOR WORK
NOT A PENNY TO HER NAME

A BLANKET?

I HAVE A SPARE, BUT WHATEVER FOR?
THERE'S A YOUNG WOMAN HERE

ALL RIGHT
JUST GIVE ME A MOMENT, DARLIN'
SORRY TO BE A BOTHER


SAID SHE'S PRONE TO SLEEP IN THE FOREST

THE FOREST? ISN'T THAT DANGER-OUS?
THAT'S WHAT I SAID!
I MEAN, A YOUNG WOMAN ALONE

WELL, WELL...

THAT WAS FAST.

THAT'LL DO IT FOR TODAY.

I'M GOIN' DOWN TO THE WHARF.

YOU CAN PLAY AROUND THERE.

COME HOME WHEN THE BELLS RING!

Chapter 46:
Hand in Hand

ANYONE OVER THERE LOOKIN' FOR WORK?

I'VE GOT AN ERRAND I NEED SOMEONE TO RUN.

HEY!

ALL RIGHT, THEN, HERE!

YOU KNOW HOW TO READ?

YES.

.....

THAT'S RIGHT, YOU.

YOU'LL DO.

AND THEN...

...WE HAVE TWO MORE SHOPS IN LONG BAY AND CHARLESTON.

THEN THERE TOO, PLEASE.

ANY BRANCH OFFICES IN TOWNS THAT HAVE A HARBOR.

SEND THIS OUT TO ALL OF THEM.

ALL, SIR?

YES.

I REALISE IT SOUNDS LIKE AN OUTRAGEOUS REQUEST.

NO, NO, NOT A BIT, SIR.

THIS IS QUITE A JOB!

I ONLY WISH WE'D GOTTEN WORD AHEAD OF TIME THAT YOU WERE COMING IN.

IT MUST BE PRIVATE BUSI-NESS.

QUIET, HE'LL HEAR YOU!

"PRIVATE BUSINESS"?

WHAT ARE MY SOCIAL STANDING AND FORTUNE FOR...

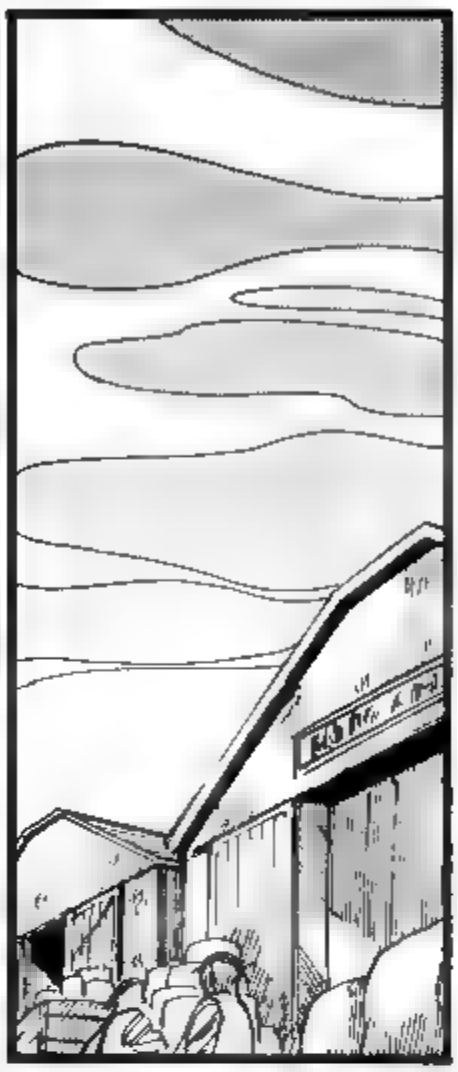
...IF I CAN'T EMPLOY THEM AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

I KNOW, I KNOW.

BUT I'LL USE...

...EVERYTHING THAT I HAVE AT MY DISPOSAL.

WHAT'S THIS?



MM...
A TELE-GRAM?

WILLIAM JONES?
WHY, THAT'S OUR...

YOU SURE THERE'S NO MIS-TAKE?
LOOK AT THE NAME.

.....

"SEARCHING FOR INFORMA-TION ON MISSING PERSON."
"DEEP-SET EYES, DARK HAIR, APPROX-IMATELY FIVE FOOT SIX.
"WEARS GLASSES.
"YOUNG WOMAN RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM ENGLAND."

EXCUSE ME.

IT MUST BE A PRANK.

QUITE LIKELY.

.....

TELE-GRAM.

YES, SIR!

YOU THERE!
TAKE THAT ONE OVER TOO!

THOSE THAT WANT SOMETHIN' TO DO BETTER BE HERE BRIGHT AN' EARLY!
JUST TO LET YOU KNOW, THERE MIGHT BE LESS WORK TOMORROW.
THERE YA GO.

!!

SHE'S NOT HERE.

AHI

.....

SHE WAS HERE.

WHY ARE YOU...

RUNNING AWAY!?

MISS EMMA!!

OW!!

I'M SORRY!!

I'M SORRY!

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

IT DIDN'T GET MY EYE.

I'M ALL RIGHT.

DON'T RUN AWAY!
WE NEED TO TALK!!
WAIT!!

.....

YOU GENTLE-MEN!

WHO WAS THAT?

I HAVE NO EARTHLY IDEA.

"WILLIAM," HE SAID?

I DON'T BELIEVE I KNOW A WILLIAM.

ER...

WHEN WILLIAM COMES BACK...

...TELL HIM I RETURNED TO THE BOAT.

.....

I DON'T KNOW.

...BY WHOM?

NOT VERY MANY PEOPLE EVEN KNOW OF YOU.

...I'M NOT SURPRISED THAT THIS HAPPENED.

BUT...

NO! HONESTLY, I DON'T KNOW WHO SENT ME HERE!!

AND I'M THE ONE WHO OBEYED EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!!

.....

MY FATHER !!?

...HAVE GUESSED THAT THEY'D DO ANYTHING TO YOU DIRECTLY.

I WOULD NEVER...

...I'M SORRY.

PLEASE...

DON'T HOLD A GRUDGE AGAINST ANYONE.

AFTER THIS...

I DECIDED.

...I'M NOT GOING TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

BUT I SWEAR, NO ONE WILL EVER—

NO.

...IF HOW I FEEL...

...REFLECTS ON THE WAY PEOPLE THINK OF YOU...

I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU BEFORE.

PEOPLE SEE ME AS A MAID WHO DOESN'T KNOW HER STATION, A TROUBLE-MAKER...

IT'S MY FAULT...

I DON'T CARE ABOUT MYSELF.

BUT I WON'T LET ANYONE...

...SAY ANYTHING CRITICAL OF YOU.

I WON'T LET THEM.

I WON'T LET THEM.

I...

.....

WHY CAN'T I..

.. FOLLOW THROUGH ON WHAT I DECIDED?

I DECI...

BUT I...

.....

BUT...

...IF WE RESOLVE SOMETHING TOGETHER, I BELIEVE WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN.

IT'S THE SAME FOR ME.

IF YOU ARE MAKING A CHOICE, CHOOSE TO BE WITH ME...

...AND I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE REST.

...I'M SORRY.

I DON'T CARE.

IT WAS ONLY A SYMBOL OF ME.

I THREW AWAY...

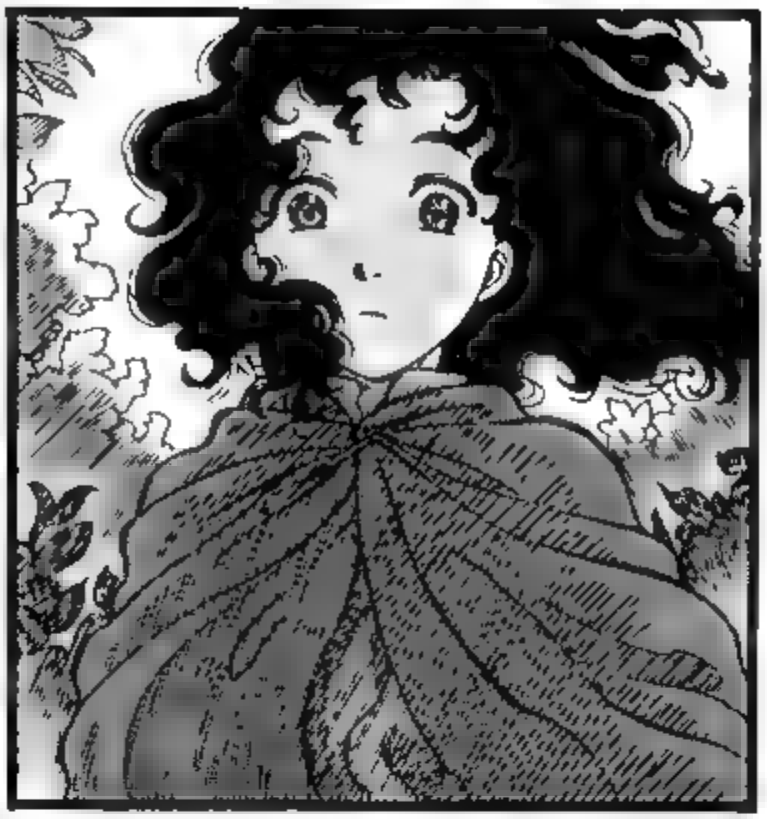
...THE LOCK OF HAIR YOU GAVE ME.

FOR NOW...

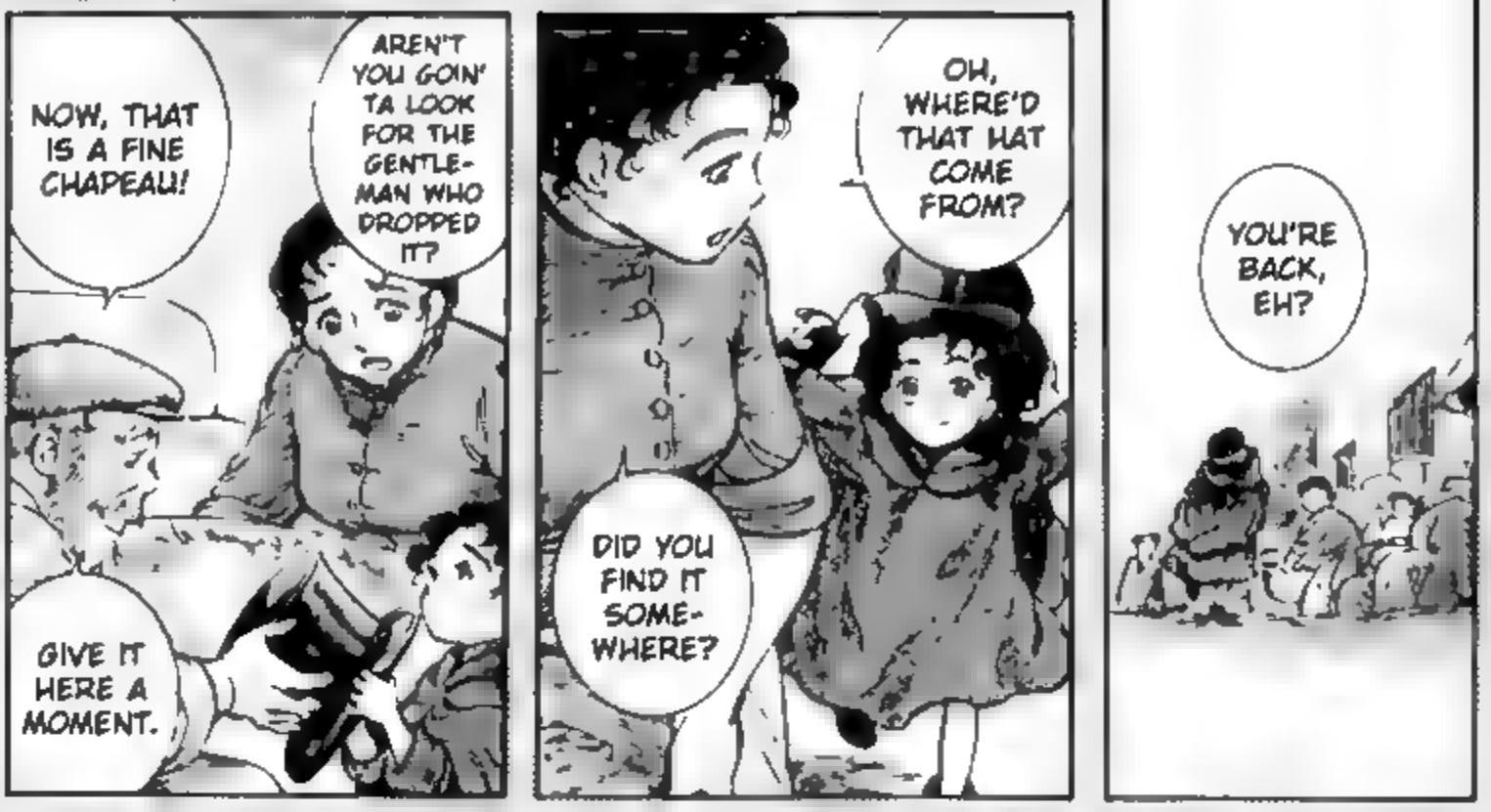
...LET'S MAKE OUR WAY BACK TO THE STREET.

.....

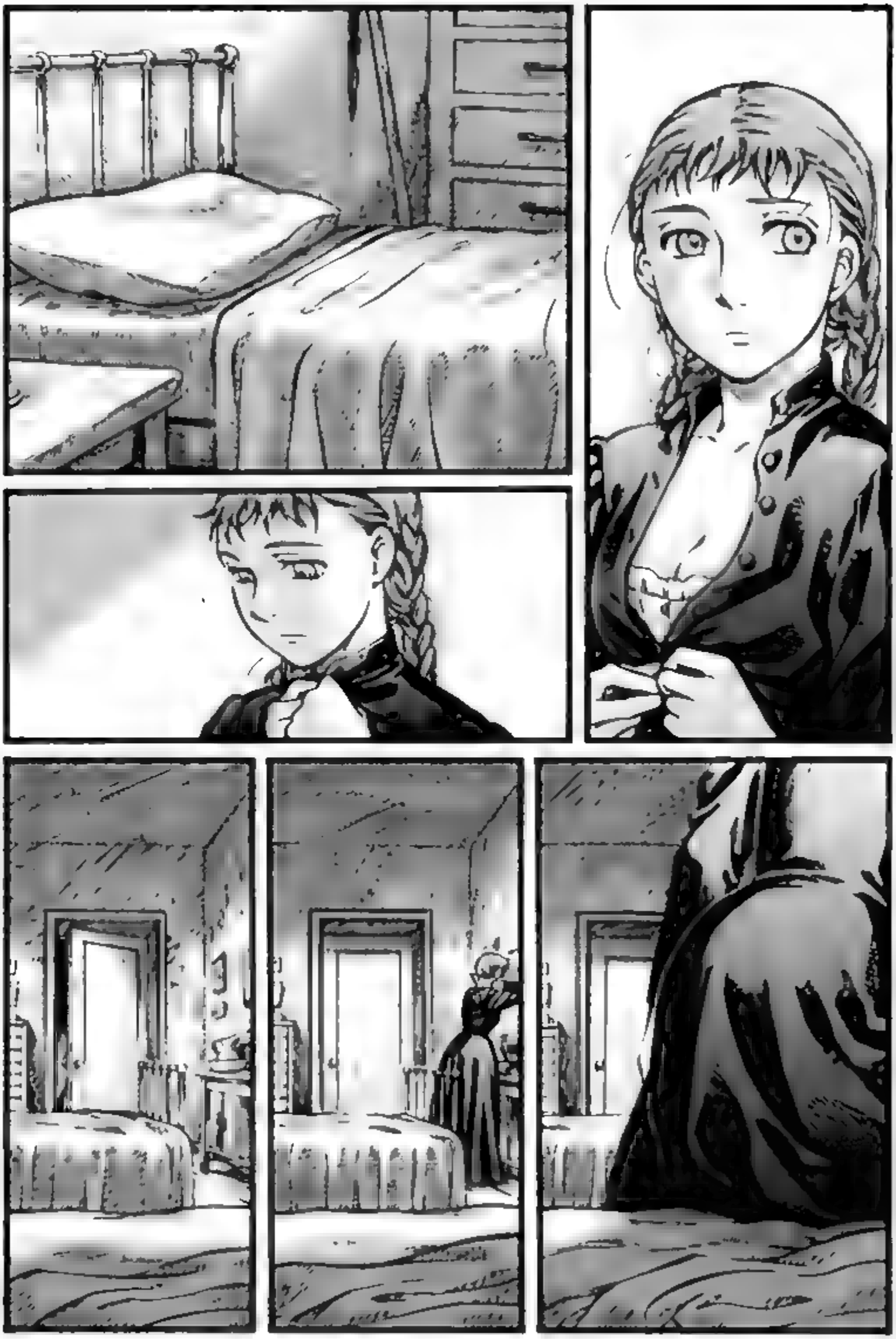
MY HAT.



Chapter 46: End


NOW, THAT IS A FINE CHAPEAU!
AREN'T YOU GOIN' TA LOOK FOR THE GENTLE-MAN WHO DROPPED IT?
GIVE IT HERE A MOMENT.
OH, WHERE'D THAT HAT COME FROM?
DID YOU FIND IT SOME-WHERE?
YOU'RE BACK, EH?
NO, SIR!
I THINK IT'D LOOK A TREAT ON YOU TOO, BOY!
GIVE IT A TRY?
HERE, POP IT ONTA MY TOP!
HA-HA-HA! REAL CLASS!
WHAT-CHA THINK?
YOU COULD BE AN ARISTO-CRAT!
IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU, GRAND-PA!!
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST KEEP IT, HUH?
THIS'S A REAL BEAUT!
HUH?

Chapter 47:
The Mölders Family Maids



GOOD MORN-ING.

GOOD MORN-ING.

MORNING.

MORNIN'.

DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY EXTRA CANDLES?

I COULDN'T SLEEP A WINK LAST NIGHT...

MM...

YOU'VE BEEN GETTING UP EARLY THESE DAYS.

QUITE THE FEAT, FOR YOU.

TODAY WE WERE SCHEDULED TO CLEAN THE GUEST BEDROOMS ...

AHEM.

...BUT IT APPEARS WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GET AROUND TO IT.

BRIL-LIANT!

GOOD MORNING!

GOOD MORNING, EVERY-ONE!

GATHER ROUND!

GOOD MORNING!

YES, MA'AM!!

WE'RE SHORT-HANDED, BUT TRY NOT TO LET THE QUALITY OF YOUR WORK SLIP.

SKILL AND SPEED WILL WIN THE DAY!

SEE THAT YOU DO AN ESPECIALLY THOROUGH JOB EVERYWHERE ELSE TODAY INSTEAD.

I WILL CHECK THE RESULTS MYSELF.

HM?

WHERE'S POLLY?

TASHA, DID YOU BRING THE BOX?

YES.

THIS IS THE RIGHT ONE, ISN'T IT?

EVERY-THIN' WE NEED! LOOK!!

A BRUSH, POLISH...

...INK REFILLS, PAPER, SOAP...

...MATCHES, OIL...

GACHA (RATTLE)

ガチャ

ガチャ GACHA

ガチャ

GACHA

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITIN'!

WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT!?

ALL RIGHT, THEN.

CARRY ON.

I'D WONDERED WHAT YOU WERE WORK-ING ON IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

GIVE IT UP NOW YOU WON'T MAKE IT PAST THE FRONT DOOR.

DO YOU PLAN TO DO A MOONLIGHT FLIT?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS!? CARRYIN' EVERYTHIN' AT ONCE WILL SAVE ME MAKIN' COUNTLESS TRIPS!

SORRY.

THIS IS NO GOOD AFTER ALL.

ONCE YOU'VE PUT AWAY YOUR WARES, SEE TO IT THAT YOU CATCH UP.

I'M GOING ON AHEAD.

REALLY!

TASHA.

OH. YES.

BA (SWISH)

BRILLIANT.

WHAT'S THAT TONE SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?

IT SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA.

SAY.

EH?

THERE'S AN 'OLE IN THIS ONE.

TASHA, ARE YOU DONE WITH THAT?

JUST FINISHED.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

THEY MUST NOT HAVE NOTICED WHEN IT WAS WASHED.

I'M GOING TO THE LAUNDRY. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

ALL RIGHT.

OH, ALMA.

SHOONP

ガッ

NOBODY EVER SAID IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE FUN.

GARA (RATTLE) GARA

AFTER ALL, SEEMS LIKE ALL WE DO THESE DAYS IS TRUDGE UP AN' DOWN STAIRS.

WE ALREADY PUT COAL IN THE SITTING ROOM AND DINING ROOM.

WE HAD ENOUGH LEFT OVER FROM OUR ROOMS.

REALLY!? THANK YOU!

OH NO!

WE HAVE TO GET BACK!

BOOON (GONGGG)

WOW! LOOK AT THIS!

WHAT DID WE DO TO DESERVE THIS?

THIS LOOKS DELI-CIOUS!

WE WERE WAITING FOR YOU!

OH, THERE YOU ARE!

SORRY WE'RE LATE!

HAVE YOU STARTED EATING ALREADY?

HURRY UP AND EAT!

THERE WERE A LOT OF INGREDIENTS LEFT OVER.

BETTER WE EAT THE FOOD THAN LET IT SPOIL, RIGHT?

REMEMBER THE GUEST WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO COME LAST MONTH?

LET'S JUST EAT!

DON'T LOOK A GIFT 'ORSE IN THE MOUTH!

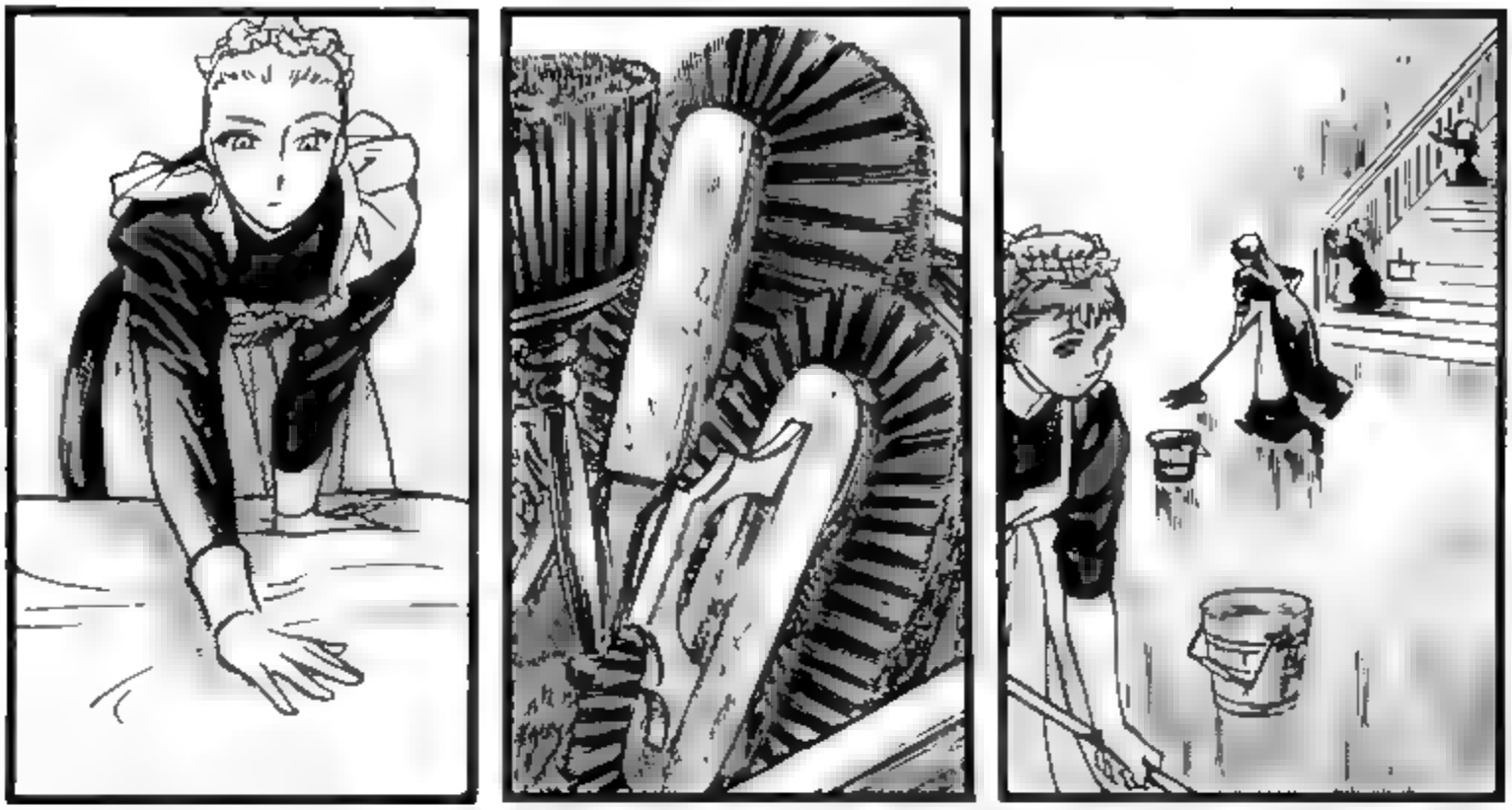
OH...

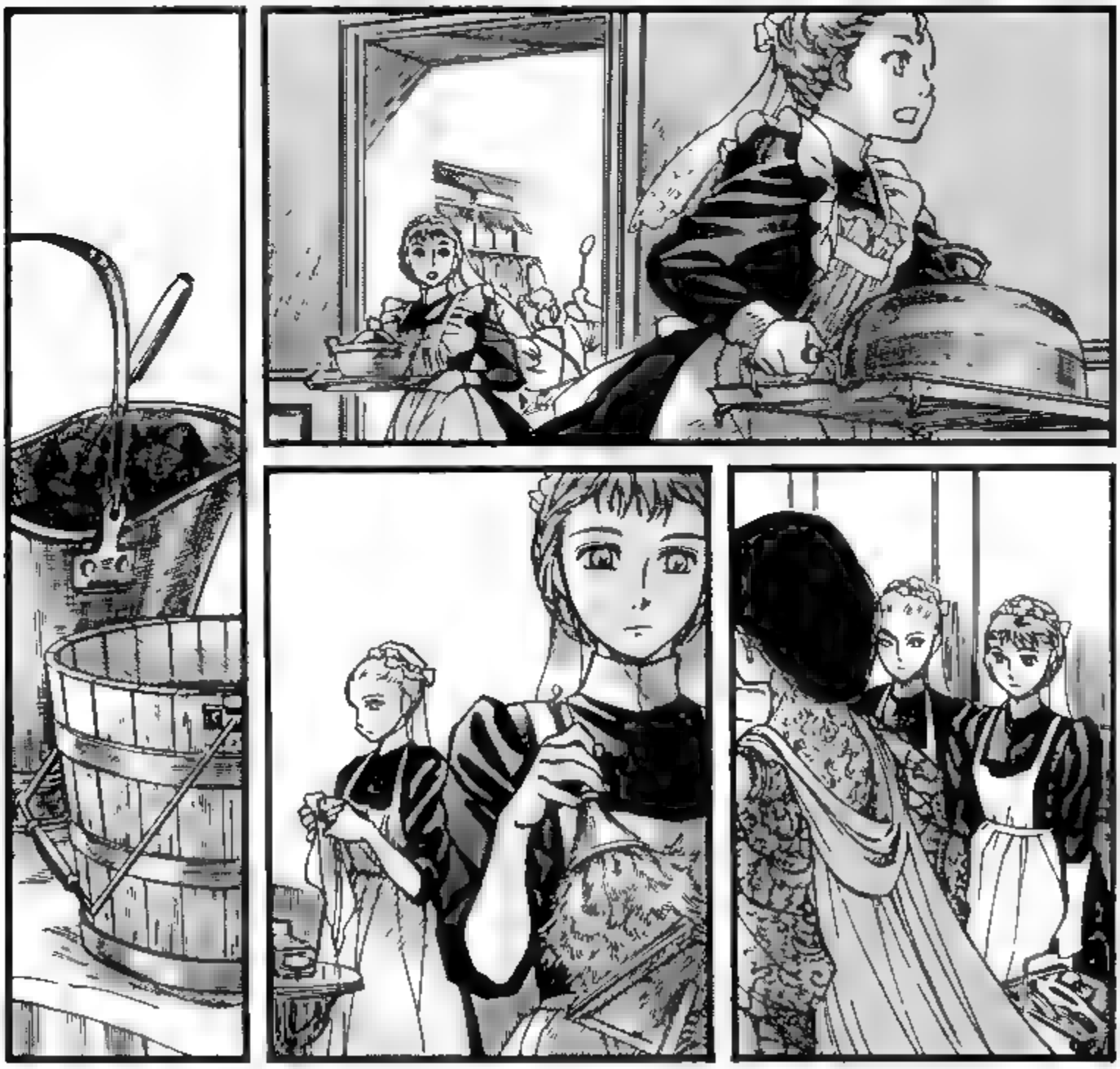
I'LL HELP YOU WITH IT LATER.

MM...

DID YOU DO THE FOYER?

NOT YET.





IS THAT TRUE!?

WHY WOULD I LIE!? ON ME LAST 'OLIDAY, WE WENT INTO TOWN.

MM-HMM...

AN' A FOOT OF VELVET OR SATIN RIBBON WAS GOIN' FOR A PENNY!

THE PEDDLER SAID 'E'D BE IN THE MARKET-PLACE TILL THE END OF THE MONTH.

WE BOUGHT A LOT.

REALLY !?

I WANT SOME TOO!!

ALMA! WHEN'S OUR NEXT 'OLIDAY!?

THE SEVENTH OF NEXT MONTH.

SOME-BODY SWITCH WITH ME!!

FORGET IT! I WANT TO GO MESELF!!

MM?

NO.

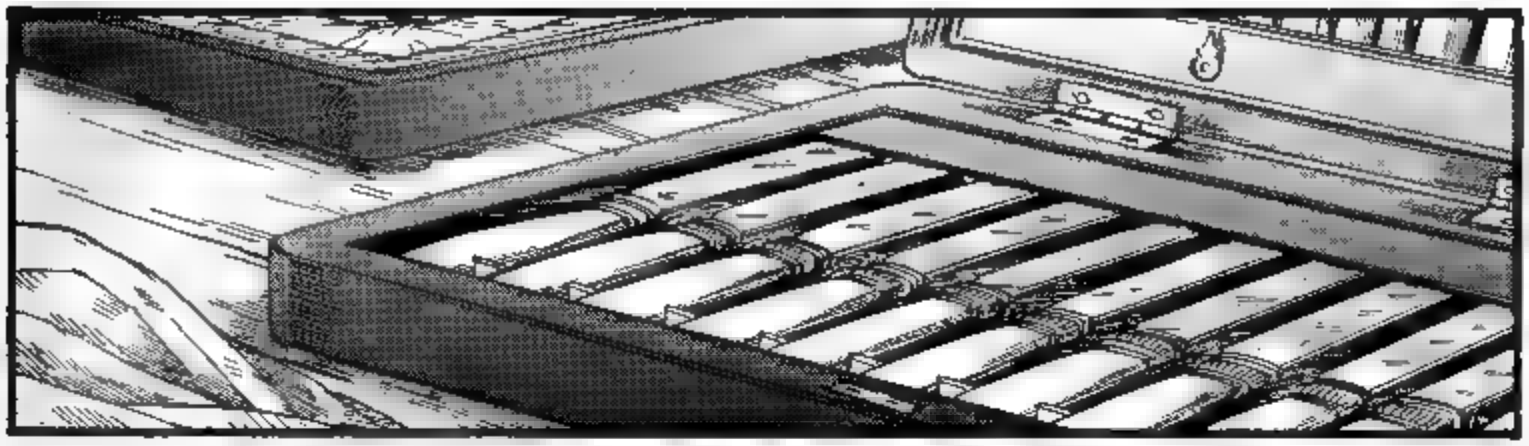
WHAT?

DOES IT LOOK LIKE RAIN?

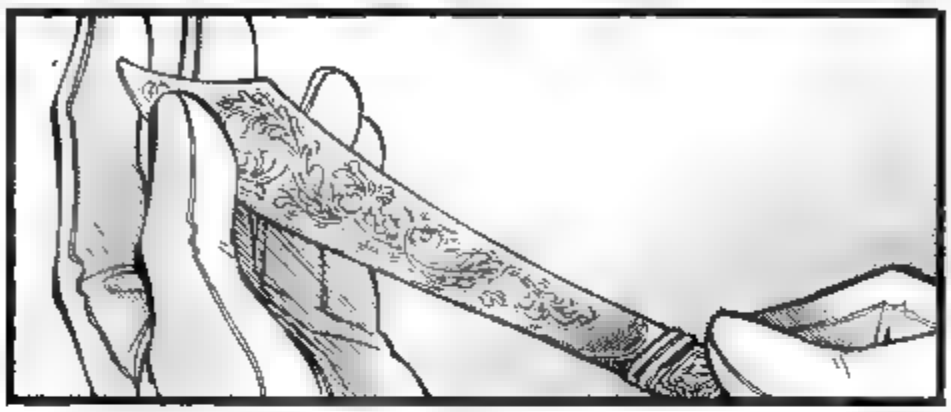
OH, CHEER UP.

SHE MAY BE BACK YET.

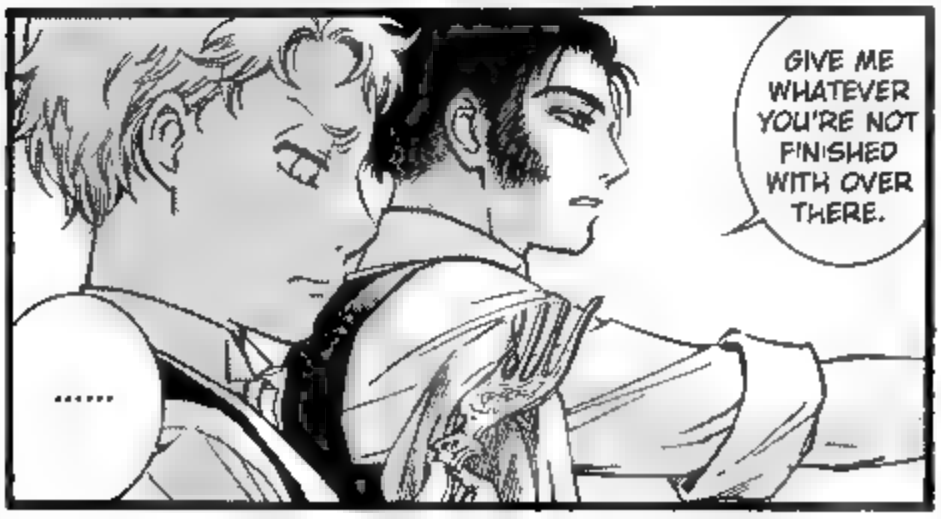
...AYE.



GOOD.



ガタ
GATA
(CLATTER)


GIVE ME WHATEVER YOU'RE NOT FINISHED WITH OVER THERE.
.....

AFTER IT'S ALL DONE, SHOW IT TO ME ONCE MORE.
YES, SIR.

HOW CAN ALL OF YOU JUST SIT THERE!?

EXPEND-ING ELBOW GREASE ON TRIFLES IS WHAT THIS IS!

.....

WHO THE DEVIL WAS IT THAT CAME UP WITH SILVER-WARE!?

CRIKEY, I'M ALL IN!

NO LOAFING ON THE JOB, JAN.

HAAAH...

CAN'T WE 'AVE ANOTHER PARTY OR SOME-THIN'?

BACK TO WORK, JAN.

I, FOR ONE, HAVE NO COMPLAINTS ABOUT ANY WORK I CAN DO WHILST SITTING DOWN.

YES, I QUITE LIKE THIS TYPE OF JOB, ACTUALLY.

WELL THEN, YOU'RE A BUNCH OF MADMEN!

IT MUST BE SAMMY WITH A PACKAGE.
THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
A GUEST.
SAMMY, EH?
SAMMY?
JIRIRIRIRI (RRRING)
AH!
I'LL GO! I'LL GO!
CHA (KCHAK)
...GOOD RID-DANCE.

HALLO, SA—

CER...

AND I'VE BROUGHT MISS EMMA WITH ME.

I'M FRIGHTFULLY SORRY FOR CALLING AT THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT.

CERTAINLY SIR!! AT ONCE!

PLEASE WAIT HERE A MOMENT!!

WOULD YOU ANNOUNCE US TO YOUR MASTER?

I'M WILLIAM JONES.

<WITH MR. JONES!?>

<EMMA'S BACK!?>

SHE'S COME HOME!?

SHE'S BACK...!!

.....!!

WAI—

AH! TASHA!!

I'M SORRY, ADELE!!

I-I'M GOING TOO!

.....

<NO.>

<AREN'T YOU GOING TO TELL THEM ..?

<...TO GET BACK TO WORK?>

<IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK I SHOULD TELL THEM?>

GATA (CLATTER) ガタ

OH, THANK GOD!!

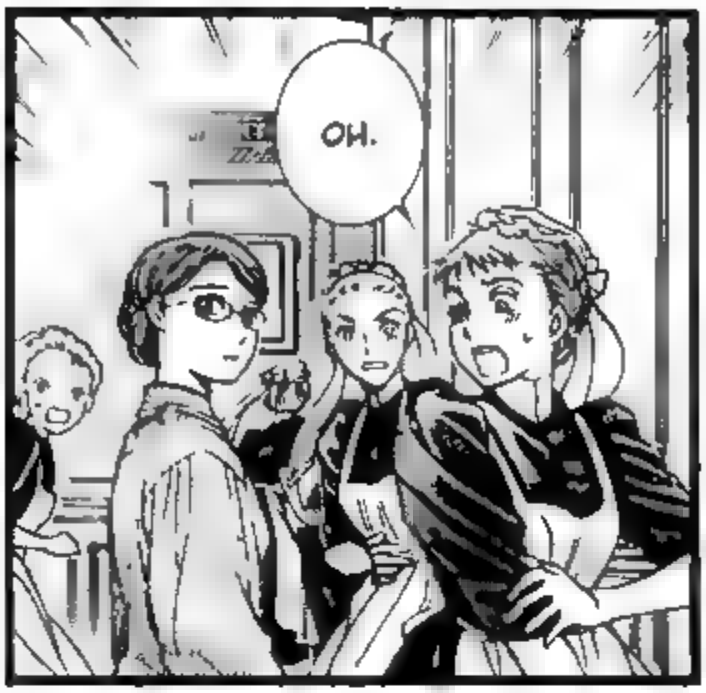
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD NEVER COME BACK!!

EVERYONE WAS—

EH? THOSE CLOTHES ...

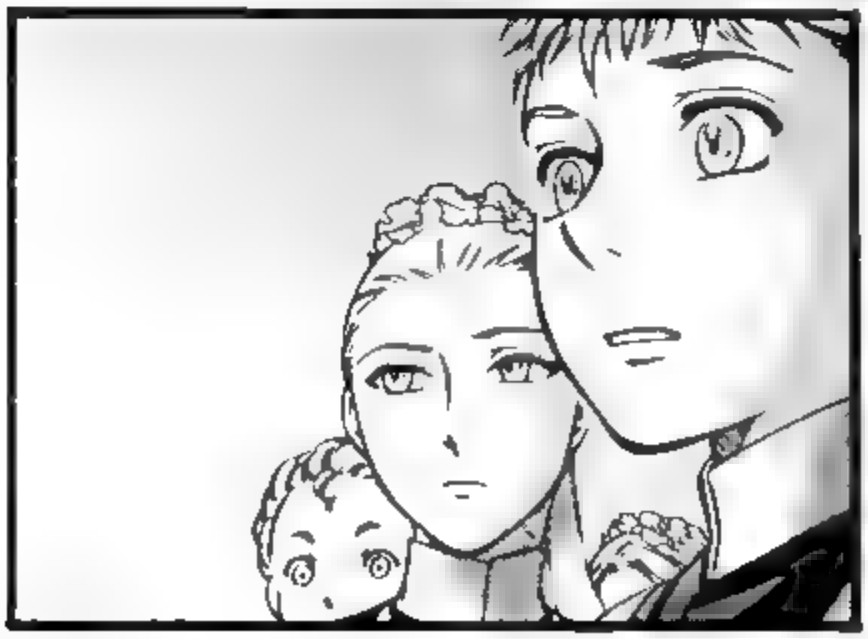
WHERE WERE YOU ALL THIS TIME!?

WHAT HAP-PENED!?


OH.

EMMA!

YES, MA'AM.



CAN'T YOU MOVE OVER JUST A BIT?

OH, SHUT UP.

ALMA, YOU'RE TOO HEAVY!

SHH!

WHAT DID SHE JUST SAY?

...AMERICA?

DID SHE SAY AMERICA?

THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!

WHY WOULD SHE BE IN AMERICA!?

YOU'RE BREAKIN' ME BACK!

POLLY, GET YOUR HEAD DOWN!

OHH, ME BACK...

QUIET!

TO GET MARRIED, OBVIOUSLY.
WHY WOULD SHE QUIT?
'S LIKE A FAIRY TALE!
TO 'IM!?

SHE'S QUITTING ...

WE'RE IN THE SOUP NOW!!

EH?

CHA (KCHAK)

ADELE, DROP WHATEVER WORK IT IS YOU'RE DOING.

...AND QUICKLY GET THE GUEST QUARTERS CLEANED.

YES, MA'AM.

HOW DARE YOU GO ABOUT EAVES-DROPPING ON OUR GUESTS LIKE THAT!?

YOU LOT!!

TASHA!

LET'S GO.

AND AS QUIETLY AS POSSI-BLE.

CER-TAINLY, MA'AM.

I AM YOUR MISTRESS NO LONGER...

...SO SIT DOWN.

HAVE A SEAT.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT

I CAN STAND...

SO.

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?

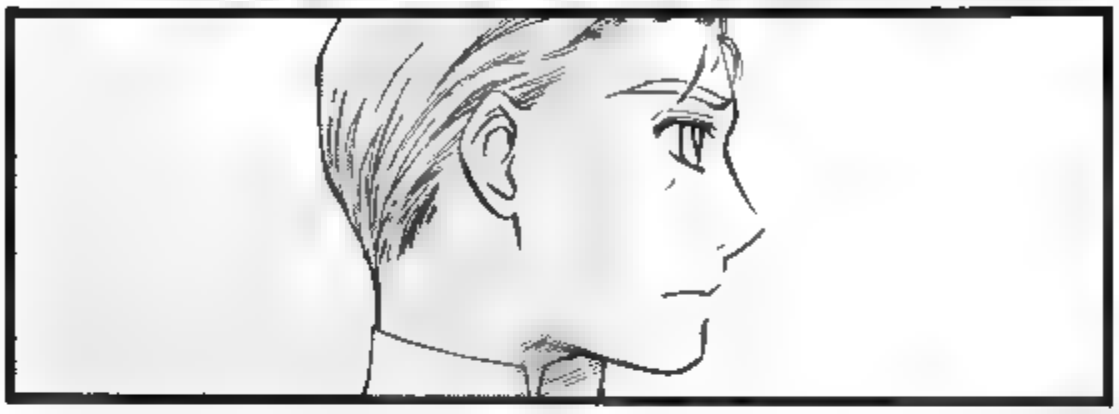
.....

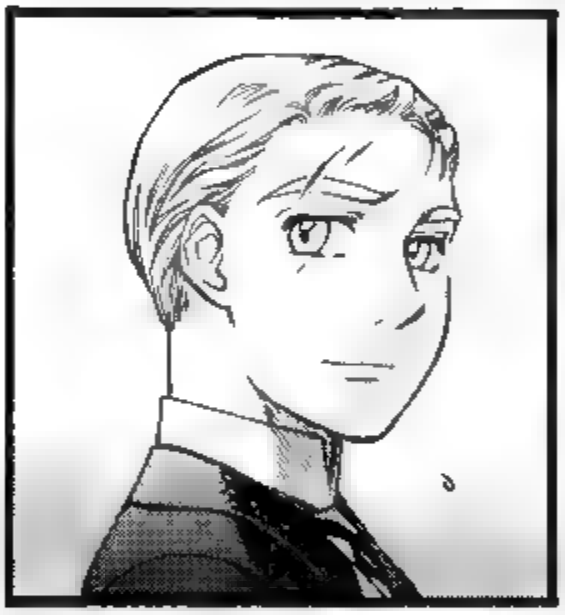
I PROMISE NOT TO SAY A WORD TO ANYONE.

THIS IS A CONVER-SATION BETWEEN WOMEN, IS IT NOT?

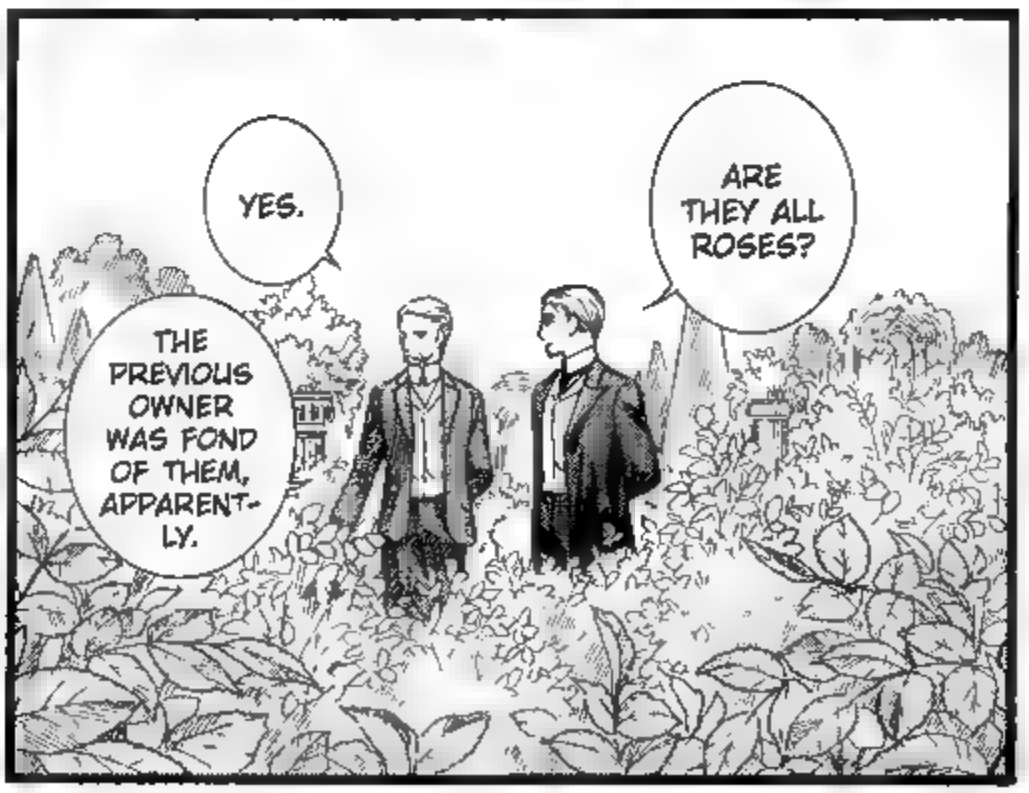
I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU FOR A FAVOUR, MADAM.
I REALISE THIS IS FORWARD OF ME...
...AND I DO APOLOGISE IF IT MAKES YOU FEEL UNCOMFORT-ABLE...
...BUT...
...YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE...
...I CAN ASK.

...THOUGH THE LAYMAN CANNOT DISTINGUISH ONE FROM ANOTHER.
I'M TOLD THERE ARE OVER FIFTY VAR ETIES HERE...





ANXIOUS, ARE YOU?


YES.
THE PREVIOUS OWNER WAS FOND OF THEM, APPARENT-LY.
ARE THEY ALL ROSES?

!

<NICE TO MEET YOU!>

<NICE TO MEET YOU!>

<NICE TO MEET YOU.>

<BOTH OF YOU, COME HERE!>

<SAY HELLO TO OUR GUEST.>

YOU SPEAK GERMAN?

ONLY SIMPLE GREETINGS, THAT KIND OF THING.

<I'M... I'M...>

<I'M ERICH!>

<WHAT ARE YOUR NAMES?>

<... ILSE ...!>

PERHAPS YOU COULD BRING YOUR BROTHER ALONG THE NEXT TIME YOU VISIT.

IT WOULD BE NICE IF THE TWO BOYS COULD BECOME PLAYMATES.

BUT YOU SEEM MORE MATURE THAN HE IS.

MY BROTHER IS SOME-WHAT TIMID, YOU SEE.

I'VE GOT A YOUNGER BROTHER ABOUT YOUR AGE.

HE'S THE YOUNGEST IN MY FAMILY, ACTUALLY.

<HE WAS JUST PRAISING YOU.>

<MR. JONES SAYS HE HAS A YOUNGER BROTHER ABOUT THE SAME AGE AS YOU, ERICH.>

DO YOU WANT THIS?

AH, HERE IT IS!

LONDON
PURE ROSE SOAP

IT SAYS IT SMELLS LIKE ROSES.

THE BOX IS PRETTY, ISN'T IT?

MM...

IT WOULD GO TO WASTE ON ME.

AREN'T YOU GOING TO USE IT?

I'D LIKE TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING MORE SPECIAL...

...BUT I'M AFRAID I DON'T HAVE MUCH THAT'S WORTH ANYTHING.

IT'S ALL RIGHT. PLEASE!

NO, YOU SHOULD...

TAKE IT!

.....

THANK YOU.

LET ME RUMMAGE AROUND ONE MORE TIME THOUGH.

MISS EMMA

ARE YOU GOING TO GET MARRIED?
...
I
I DON'T KNOW YET
AFTER YOU RESIGN HERE, WHERE WILL YOU GO?

I DON'T KNOW...

...THAT EITHER.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT PART I PLAYED IN HIS LIFE...

Chapter 47: End

YOU CAN TELL IT WASN'T JUST BOUGHT OFF THE PEG.

IT WAS CUSTOM-MADE AT A SHOP IN LONDON.

LOOK, HERE ARE THE INITIALS INSIDE.

TOP NOTCH!

THIS MUST'VE COST...

IS IT REALLY AS FINE AS THAT?

...A PRETTY PENNY.

BUT NOBODY KNOWS WHO HE IS!

WE HAVEN'T HAD ANYONE 'ROUND HERE COMPLAINING ABOUT LOSING HIS TOPPER.

YOU SEE?

I TOLD YOU IT'D BE BEST TO RETURN IT.

I'M SURE THE GENTLEMAN WHO LOST HIS HAT IS FRANTIC ABOUT IT

WELL, I DO HAVE A CERTAIN PASSING KNOWL-EDGE

YOU MUST KNOW YOUR FANCY SHOPS!

THAT'S AN EXCELLENT IDEA!

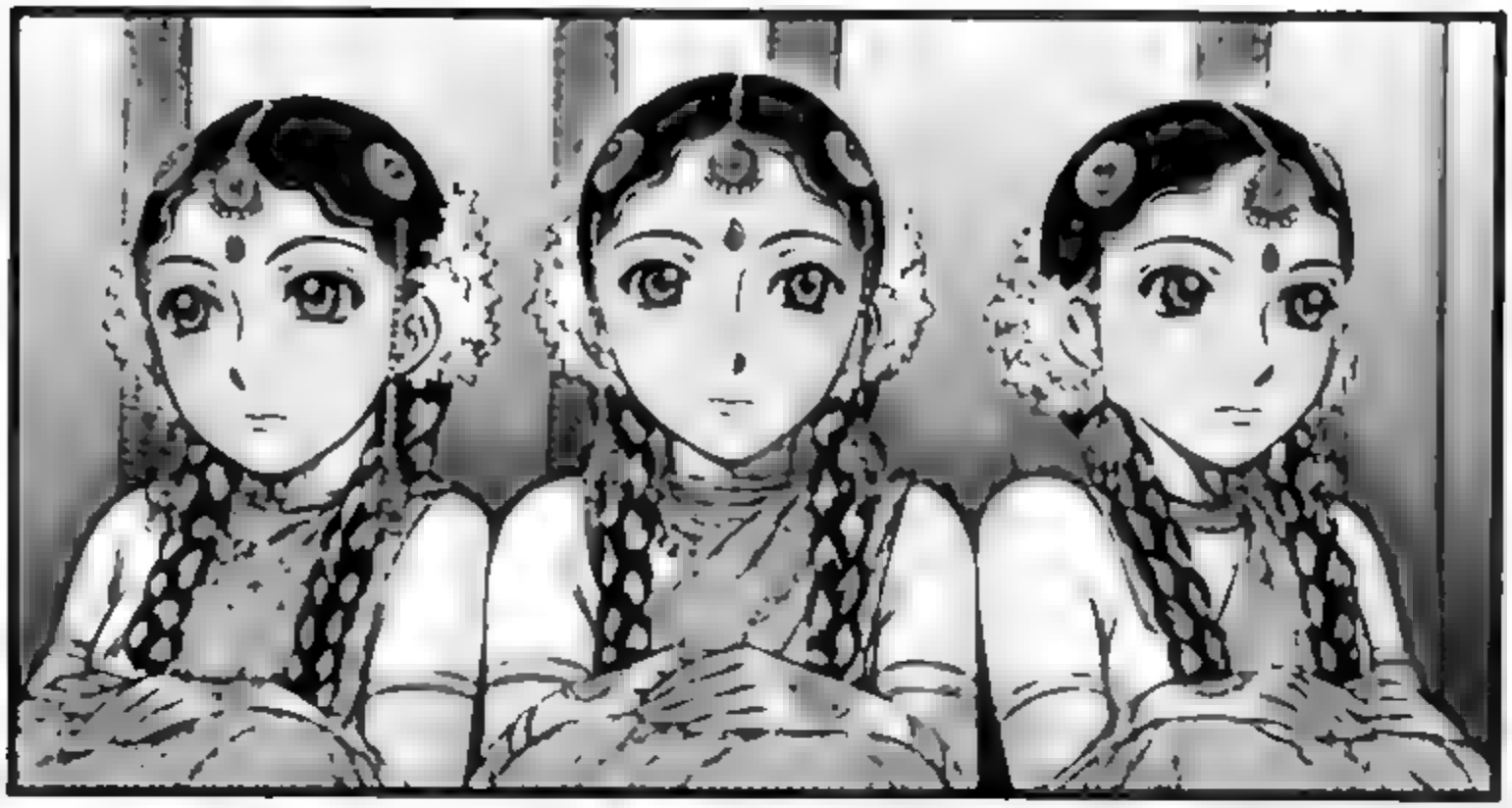
.....

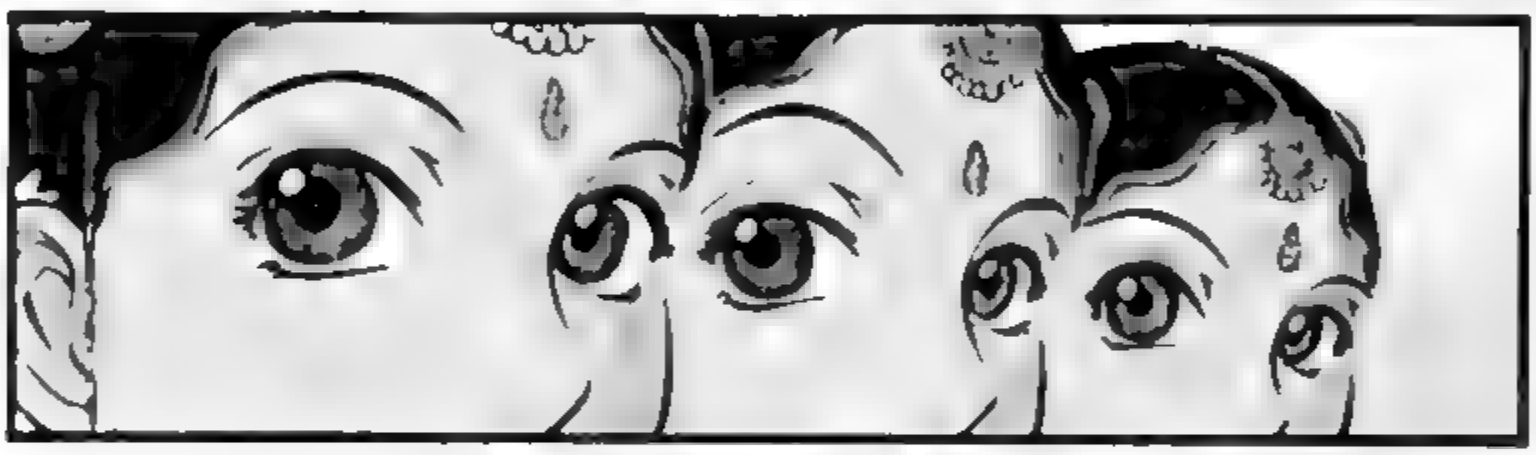
THIS THE ADDRESS ?

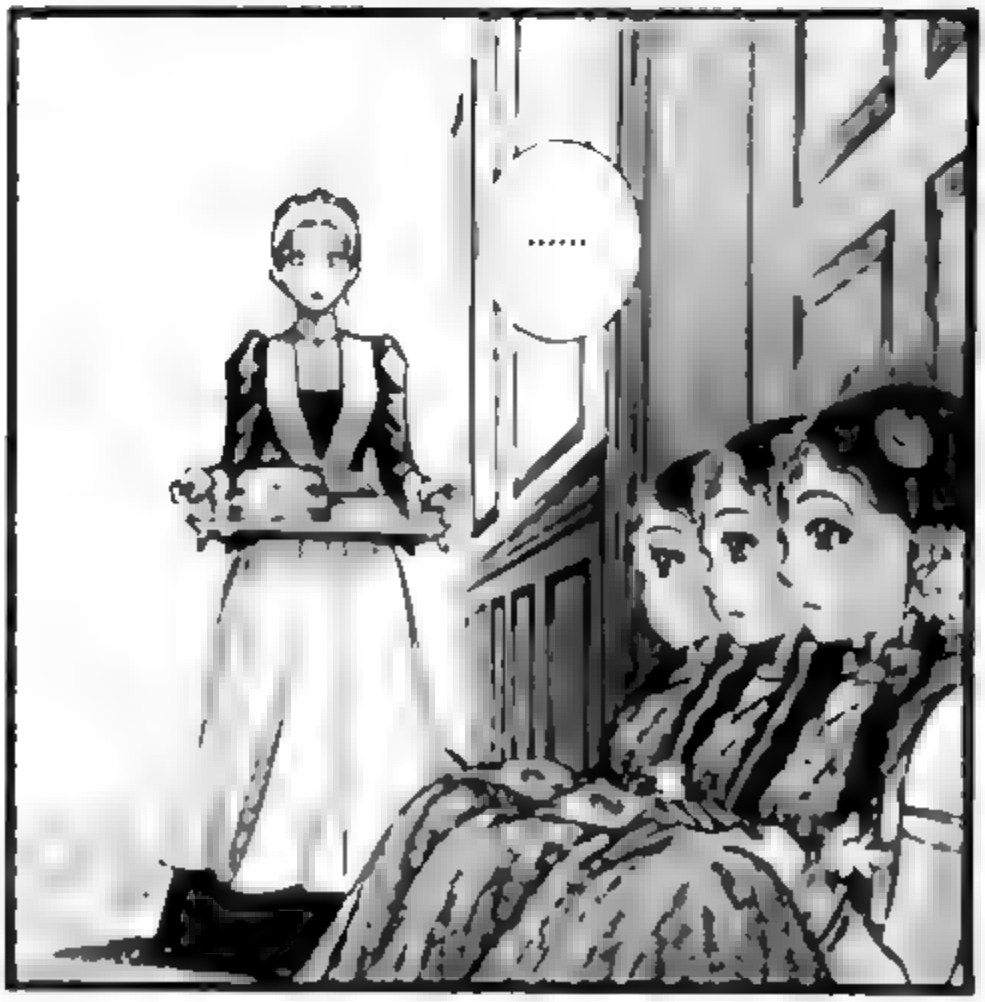
MAYBE IF YOU SENT IT BACK TO THE SHOP, THEY COULD GET IT TO THE OWNER.

HABER-DASHERY LIKE THIS, THEY PROB-ABLY KEEP INFORMATION ON THEIR CUSTOM-ERS.

LOCK & Co. HATTERS







ELEANOR?
ELEANOR, SPEAK TO ME
Chapter 48.
The Favour

I UNDER-STAND YOU DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT...

...BUT I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

YOU CAN TELL YOUR BIG SISTER WHAT HAPPENED, CAN'T YOU?

IF YOU WOULD AT LEAST TELL ME WHETHER SOMETHING HAPPENED OR NOT...

...I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP YOU.

MONICA.

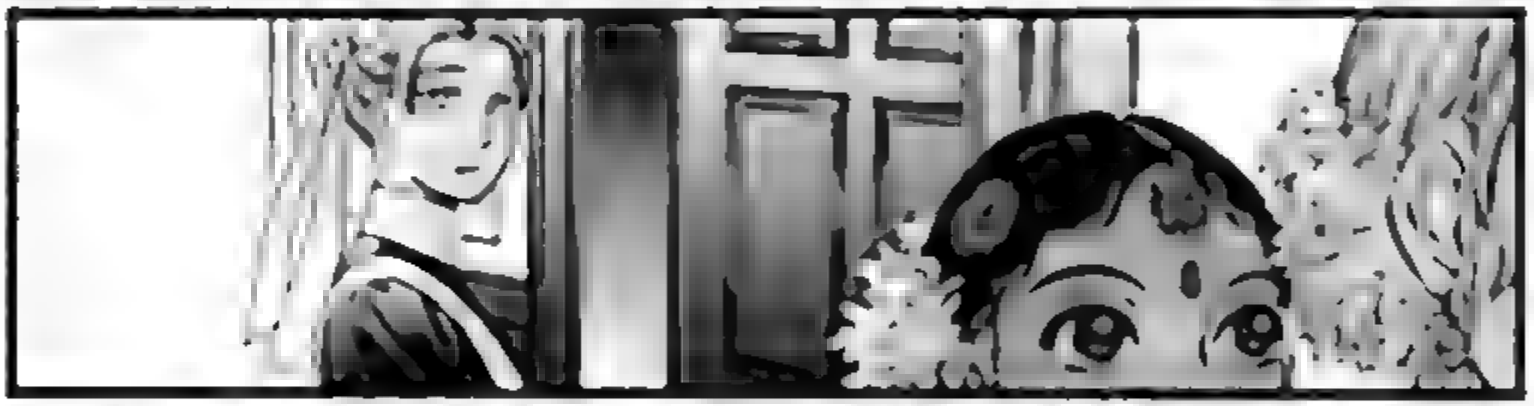
YES!?

WHAT IS IT, DEAR!?

.....

I'M SORRY...

...BUT I'D LIKE TO BE LEFT ALONE.



I KNOW, MONICA. IT MUST BE SO DIFFICULT, WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH RIGHT NOW.

I WAS SO SURE SHE'D TRUST ME ENOUGH TO TELL ME.

BY THE WAY, DARLING...

IT'S TERRIBLE! HORRIBLE BEYOND WORDS!

I WISH WE COULD DEPART RIGHT THIS MOMENT...

...BUT I JUST CAN'T LEAVE ELEANOR LIKE THIS!

...WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO COME HO—

OH, I'M SORRY, FREDER-ICK!!

JUST WAIT TILL NEXT WE MEET!!

IF YOU GO OUT A WINDOW THEN, IT WILL BE BECAUSE I'VE THROWN YOU THROUGH ONE!!

YOU'RE CHOKING ME, DARLING!

ER? MONICA ...?

THAT'S RIGHT, FREDERICK!

I KNEW YOU WOULD UNDER-STAND!

I UNDER-STAND, DEAREST!

YOU'RE THE KINDEST, MOST TEN-DER PERSON I'VE EVER KNOWN!

WILLIAM JONES!!

BUT AS FOR THAT SCOUNDREL ...

TELL ME YOUR REQUEST.
GO AHEAD.
.....

.....

LIKE ME?

I...

...I WANT TO BE LIKE YOU, MADAM.

AND I WAS...

...HOPING YOU COULD TEACH ME.

AND I SEE NO REASON FOR YOU TO BECOME LIKE ME.

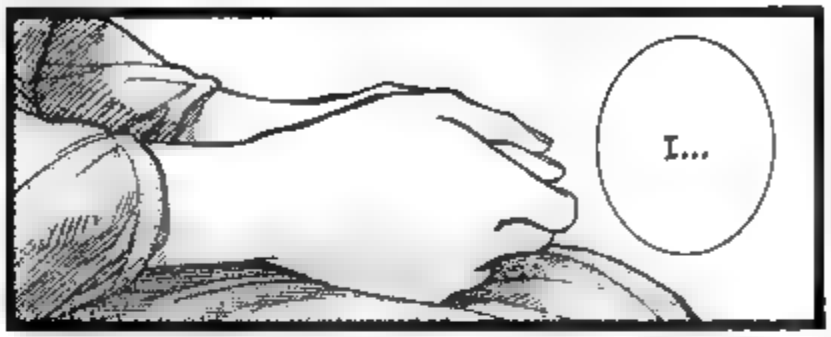
YOU'RE NOT ME, MY DEAR.

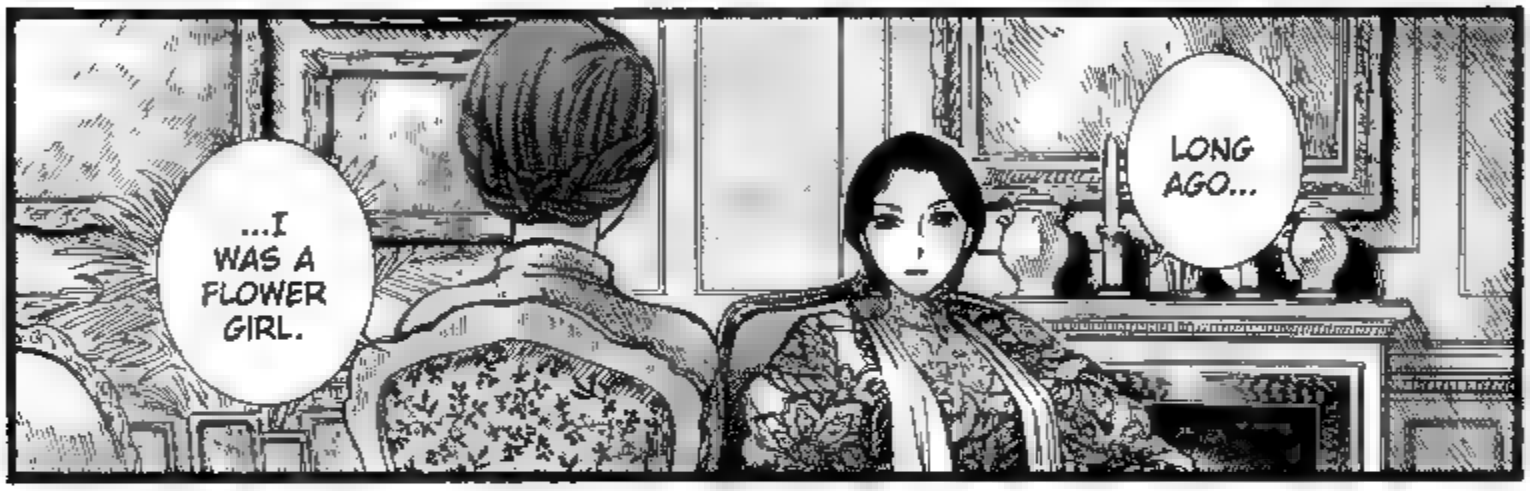
HOH HOH HOH!

THAT'S THE MOST AMUSING THING I'VE HEARD IN MONTHS!

.....

WHAT IS YOUR REASON?


I...


...I WAS A FLOWER GIRL.
LONG AGO...

EVERY-THING I KNOW TODAY WAS TAUGHT TO ME.

WERE YOU REALLY?

I WOULDN'T KNOW FROM LOOKING AT YOU.
...I SEE.

I HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE TO BE TAKEN OFF THE STREETS BY A KIND LADY
SHE INSTRUCTED ME FROM HOW TO WALK TO THE PROPER WAY TO SPEAK

EVERYTHING I NEEDED TO KNOW
TO BE EMPLOYED AS A MAID

MADAM EVERY TIME I LOOK AT YOU, I'M FILLED WITH ADMIRATION
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE ARISTOCRACY, BUT YOU SEEM EVEN GRANDER THAN THEY

IT IS THANKS TO HER I WAS ALSO ABLE TO FIND A POSITION AT THIS FINE MANSION OF YOURS

IF I COULD BECOME EVEN ONE-HUNDREDTH OF WHAT YOU ARE...

PERHAPS THEN I COULD...

...AT THE VERY LEAST...

OF COURSE, I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM A FLOWER GIRL BECOMING A MAID...

...BUT IF I COULD SOMEHOW COME TO LOOK THE PART...

.....

I COULD BE SEEN WITH HIM PUBLICLY...

...AND NOT DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD EMBARRASS HIM.

AT THE VERY LEAST...

...YOU COULD WHAT?

...I SEE.

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU WISH TO BECOME A SUITABLE PARTNER FOR MR. JONES, TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITIES.

WHEN I WAS A GIRL, I OFTEN THOUGHT THE SAME THING MY-SELF.

.....

...AND WONDER...

...HOW CAN I BE LIKE THAT?"

I WOULD WATCH ALL THE ADULTS MILLING ABOUT AT THEIR PARTIES...

...THIS KIND OF THING THAT ONE LEARNS... AND BECOMES... THROUGH EXPERI-ENCE...

...ISN'T THE KIND OF TH NG THAT CAN BE TAUGHT.

BUT YOU KNOW...

.....

NO, MA'AM.

BESIDES THAT, YOU ARE... WERE...

...A MAID.

ENTERING SOCIETY WILL BE NO EASY TASK.

YES, MA'AM.

I'M SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU, MADAM!!

.....

DON'T GIVE IT ANOTHER THOUGHT!

PLEASE, FORGIVE MY IMPUDENCE.

YOU WERE TRYING ...

...TO TELL ME THAT NEXT TIME...

...YOU WISH TO HAVE MORE THAN A FANCY DRESS, YES?

WAIT.

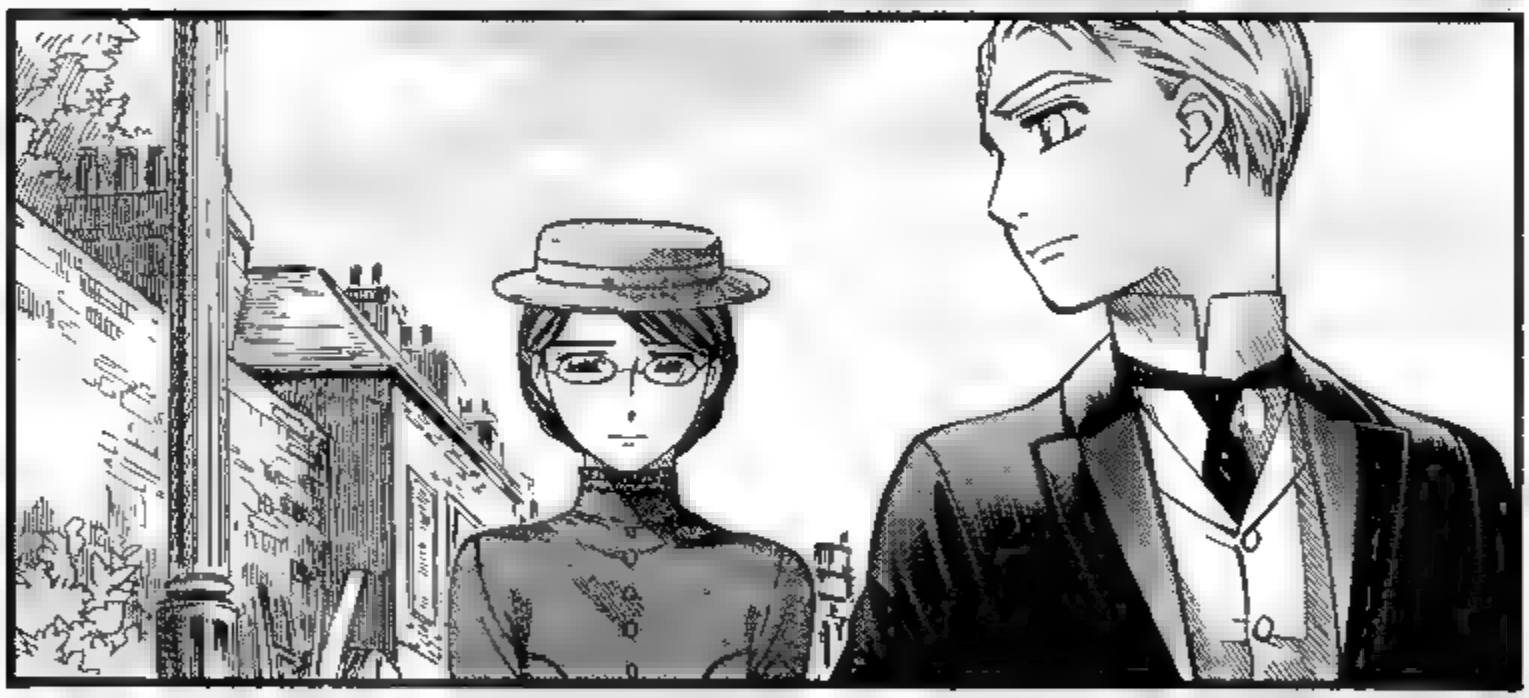
IF YOU WERE GOING TO PAY A VISIT, WHY DIDN'T YOU LET ME KNOW BEFORE-HAND?

YOU HAVE SUCH A PREDILECTION FOR COMING AND GOING WITHOUT WARN!—

...OH.

DORO-THEA!?

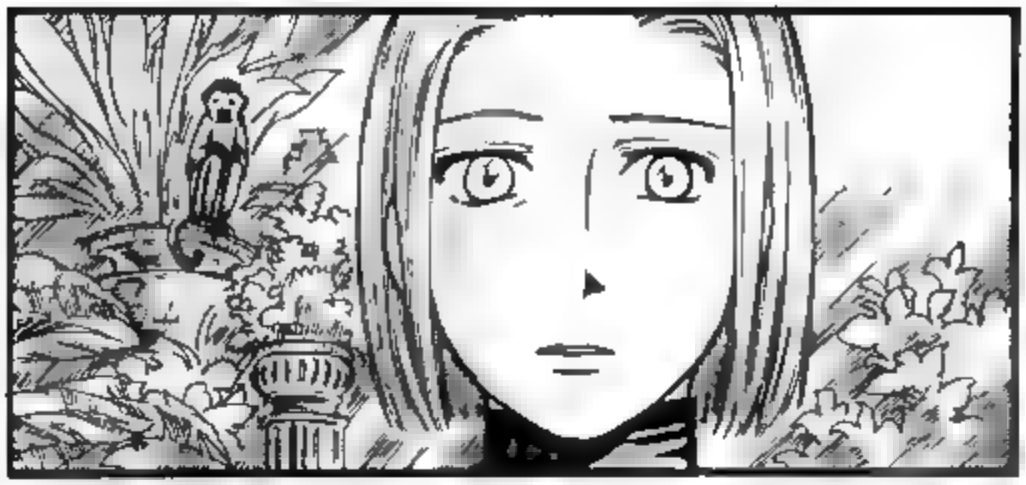
WILLIAM!?



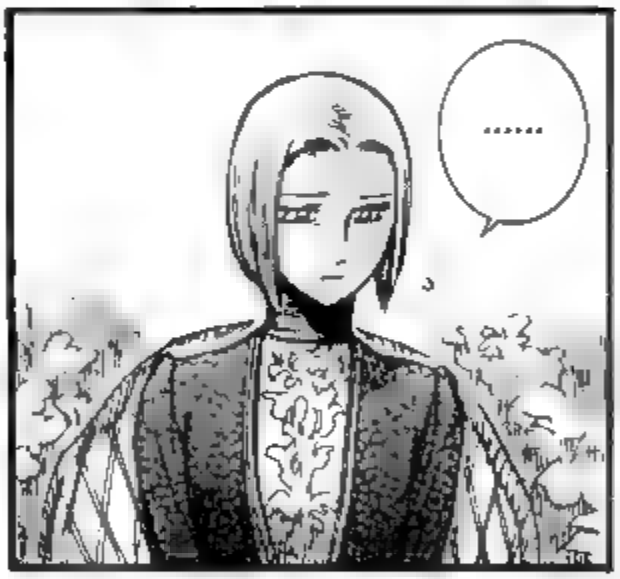
.....

WE'VE COME FOR A LITTLE CONSULTA-TION.

I'M SORRY, MA'AM.



OF COURSE, I REMEMBER EVERYTHING THAT YOU TOLD ME, MADAM.
I WAS HOPING TO HEAR YOUR HONEST OPINION...


.....

BUT I THOUGHT ...
...PERHAPS YOU WOULD BE THE BEST PERSON...
...TO TALK TO ON THIS SUBJECT.

WE'RE NOT TRYING TO FORCE YOU.
WE'RE JUST ASKING.

I BELIEVE ...

...THAT WHAT YOU'RE CONTEMPLATING IS RATHER A DIFFICULT ENDEAVOUR INDEED.

.....

.....

I WILL TRY, NO MATTER WHAT THE OBSTACLE.

YES.

YOU'RE DIFFERENT THAN ME, AREN'T YOU...?

YES.

BUT...

YOU'RE STAYING HERE?

I APOLOGISE FOR TELLING YOU SO SUDDENLY...

...BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IT WOULD HAPPEN MYSELF.

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

I'M NOT GOING TO RUN AWAY AGAIN.

I...

OH NO.

I WASN'T WORRIED ABOUT THAT.

I TOO...

...SHALL DO EVERY-THING...

...THAT I CAN.

ARE YOU FINISHED?

YOUR GLASSES.

DOESN'T THAT CRACK MAKE THEM DANGER-OUS?

AH!

THAT'S RIGHT!!

OH.

.....

BY THE WAY, SOMETHING HAS BEEN BOTHERING ME.

...JUST REPLACING THE LENS IS ENOUGH.

HONESTLY ...

THINK OF THIS TOO AS AN OPPORTU-NITY.

PERHAPS THE LENSES ARE NO LONGER SUITABLE FOR YOUR EYES.

TRY THESE ON.

.....

CAN YOU SEE BETTER THAN BEFORE?

YES.

.....

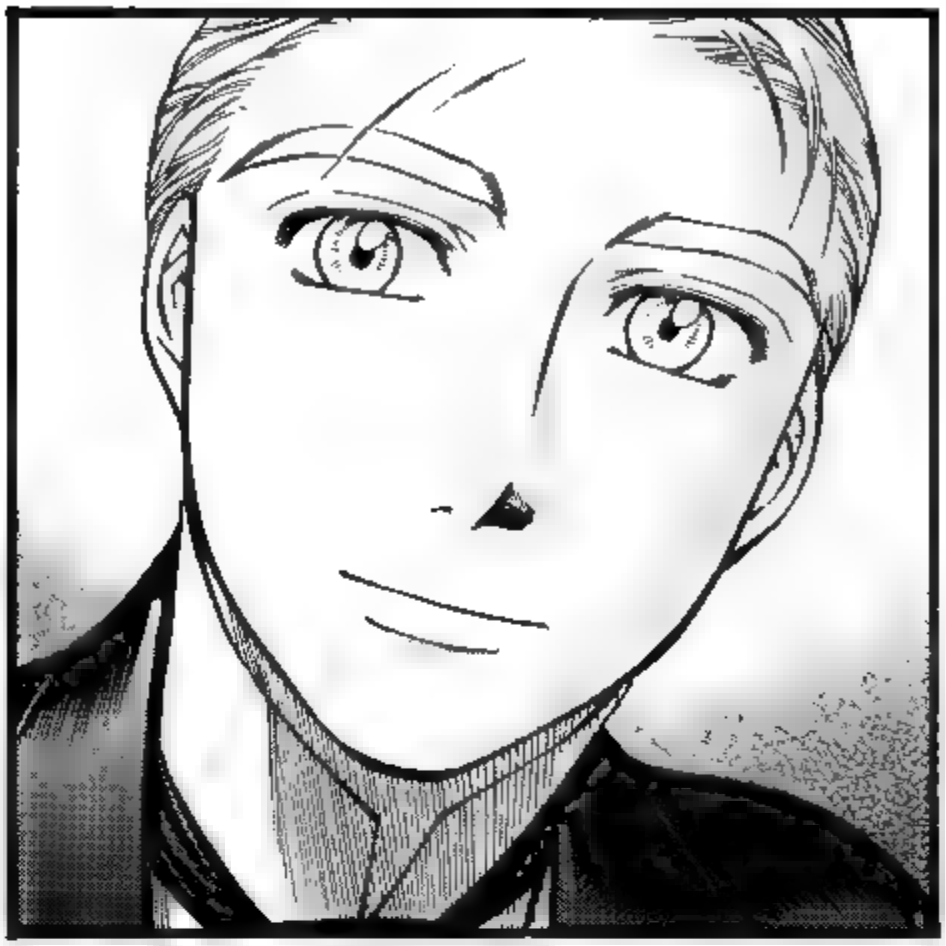
YES.

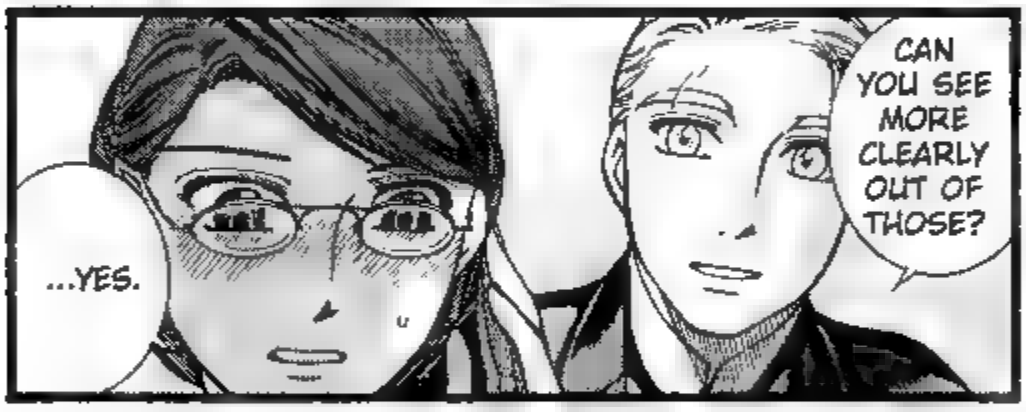
AND THIS FAR?

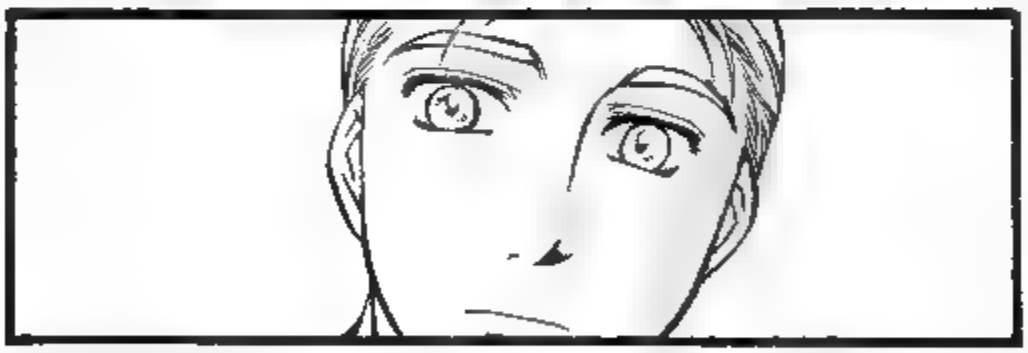
.....

LET'S TRY A SLIGHTLY MORE POWERFUL LENS.

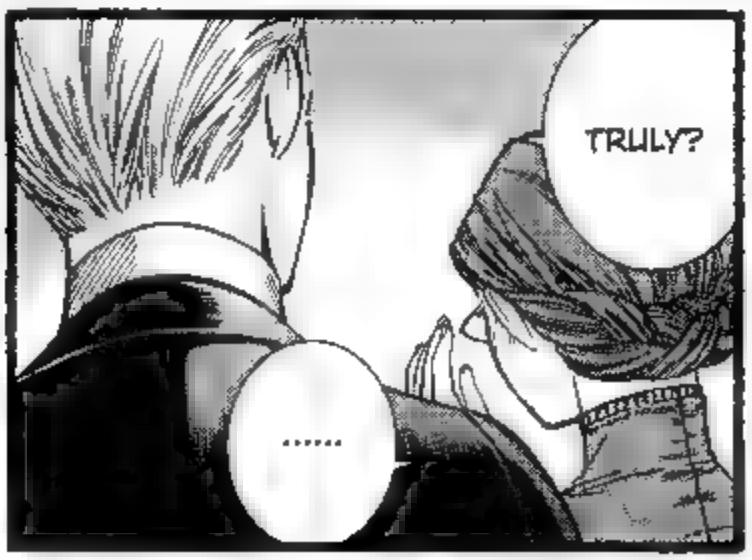
CAN YOU SEE THIS?




...YES.
CAN YOU SEE MORE CLEARLY OUT OF THOSE?

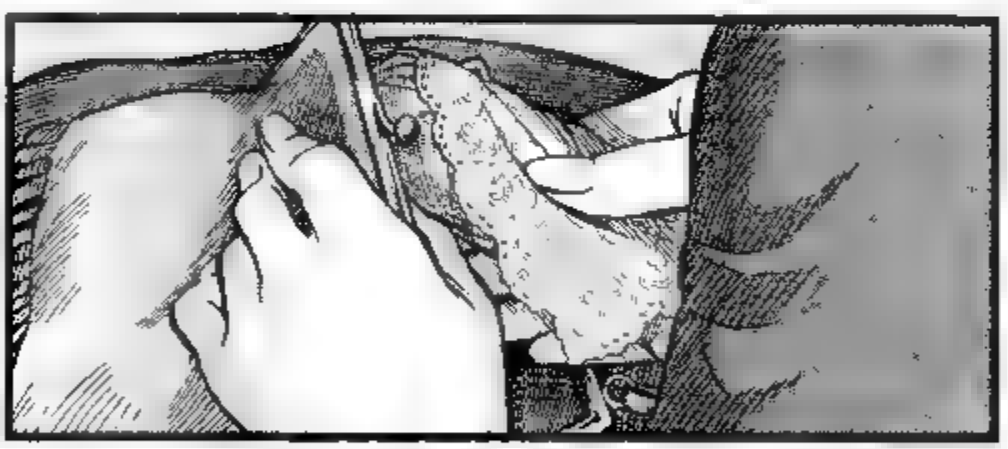


EXCUSE ME.
I'LL TAKE THE OTHER ONES AFTER ALL.


TRULY?
.....

MRS. STOWNER GAVE YOU THOSE...
YES.
...DIDN'T SHE?

.....



THEY FIT YOU NICELY.
YES.

THERE WE GO.

.....

I SHALL VISIT AGAIN SOON.

GOOD.

WELL, THEN.

<THEY SHOULD'VE KISSED, OR AT LEAST EMBRACED.>

AHH, INNOCENT LOVE.

MARTHA!

MY BACK 'AS BEEN ACTIN' UP ON ME THESE DAYS.

NO, PLEASE, MADAM.

EMMA ISN'T STAYING HERE TO BE EMPLOYED AS A MAID.

THIS WILL BE A GREAT 'ELP.

...EVEN A LITTLE WOULD MAKE ME FEEL...

WORK-ING...

LET ME HELP.

MAY I BORROW THIS?

WELL, THE ROOM OVER THERE NEEDS A GOOD...

WHAT CAN I DO?

I WANT TO BE INFORMED THE INSTANT ELEANOR LEAVES HER ROOM.

DO YOU UNDER-STAND?

AH, FATHER.

JUST COMING HOME FROM A NIGHT OUT ON THE TOWN?

DON'T LOITER AROUND THE MANSION IN THAT OUT-LANDISH GARB.

IS IT THE MARK OF A GENTLEMAN TO REMAIN ENTIRELY UNRUFFLED BY YOUR DAUGHTER'S DISTRESS?

ELEANOR IS IN DIRE STRAITS AT THE MOMENT.

IN THAT CASE, SPARE NO TIME IN HASTENING TO YOUR OWN HOME.

I'M SURE NO ONE WILL UTTER A WORD OF COMPLAINT THERE.

I HAPPEN TO BE FOND OF THIS MANNER OF DRESS.

THIS IS MY HOUSE.

THAT'S ENOUGH, MONICA.

I WONDER WHO HIS NEXT BEAU IS .

AND LISTEN TO YOUR FATHER.

THOSE GARMENTS YOU'RE WEARING AREN'T FIT FOR A LADY.

WELL, IT'S NOT WORTH MAKING SUCH A GREAT FUSS OVER.

THAT'S JUST HOW MEN ARE.

YOU'RE RATHER CALM ABOUT ALL THIS, MOTHER.

I SUPPOSE IT'S BECAUSE YOU HAVE A GENEROUS HEART

WELL, I DESPISE MEN LIKE THAT.

WHAT IS IT, MY DEAREST!?

ACTU-ALLY...

...I'VE BEEN THINKING ...

THEY WOULD DO WELL TO LEARN FROM MY FREDERICK.

YES, WELL, MONICA.

YOU LOOK WONDERFUL NO MATTER WHAT YOU WEAR.

...AND THOSE CHILDREN ARE ABSOLUTELY CHARMING IN THEIR OUTFITS...

WHEN ARE YOU COMING HO—

WAIT HERE BUT A MOMENT!!

I'M GOING TO CHANGE CLOTHES!!

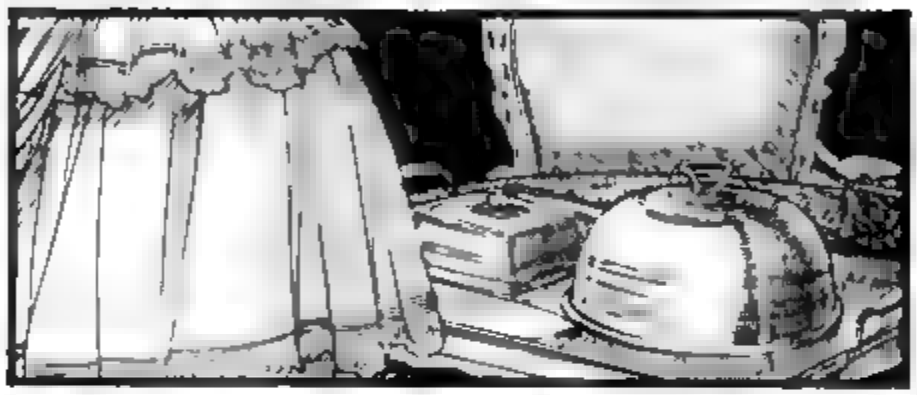
...BUT I THINK YOU MAY LOOK THE MOST BEAUTIFUL IN A DRESS.

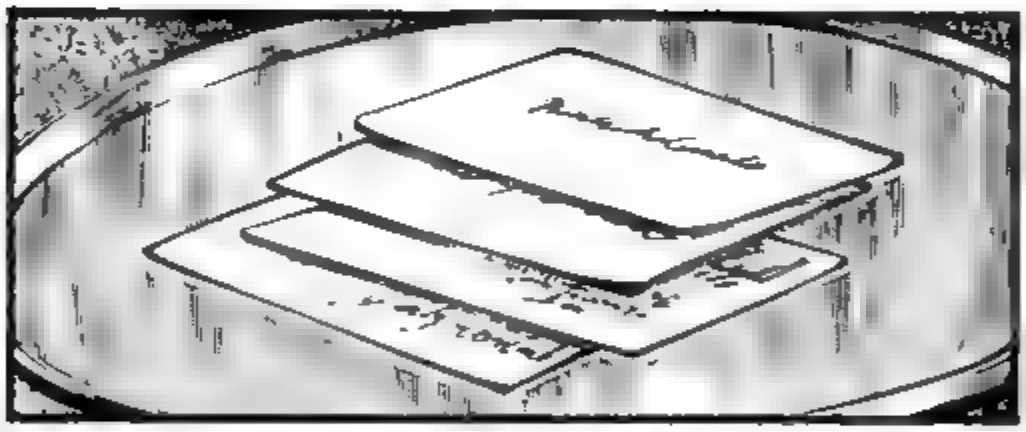
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO, FREDERICK !?

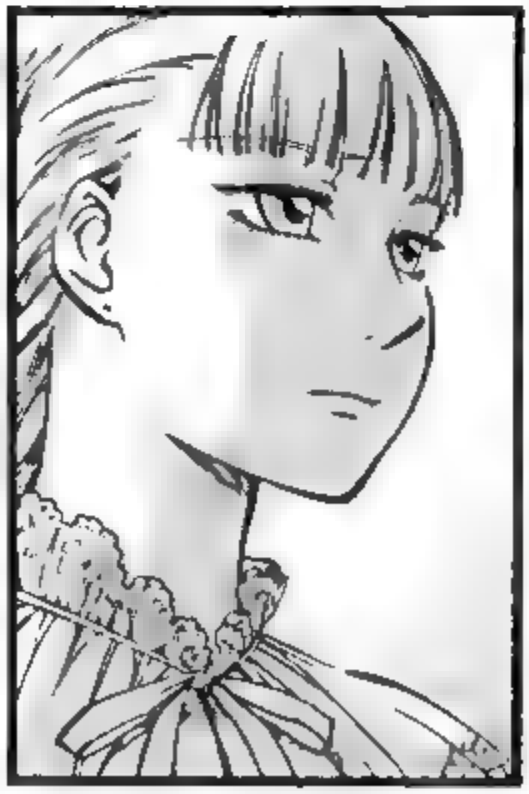
I CERTAINLY DO, DARLING!

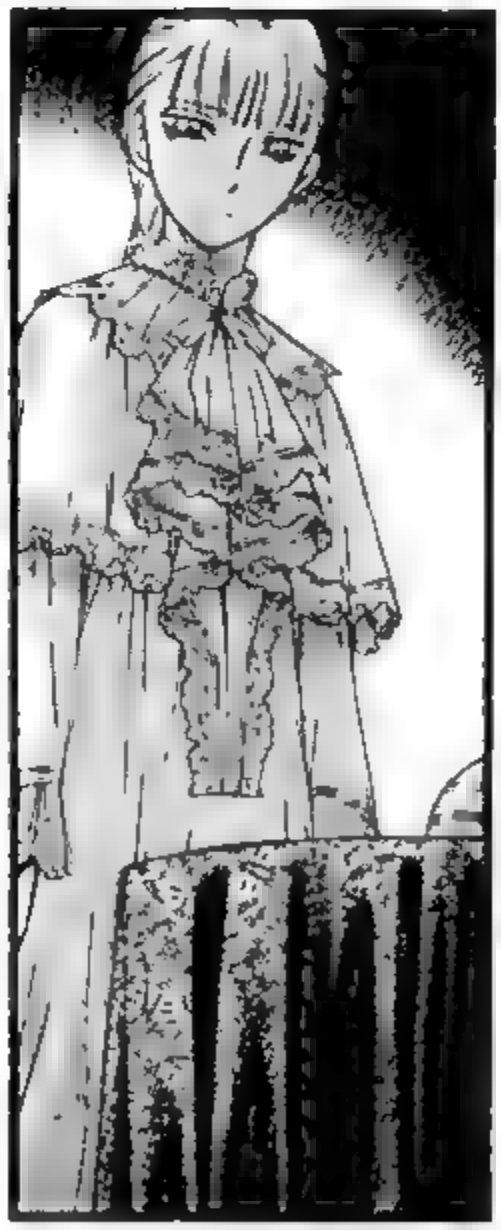
NOW, WHAT I WANTED TO ASK YOU...

QUIET NIGHT,





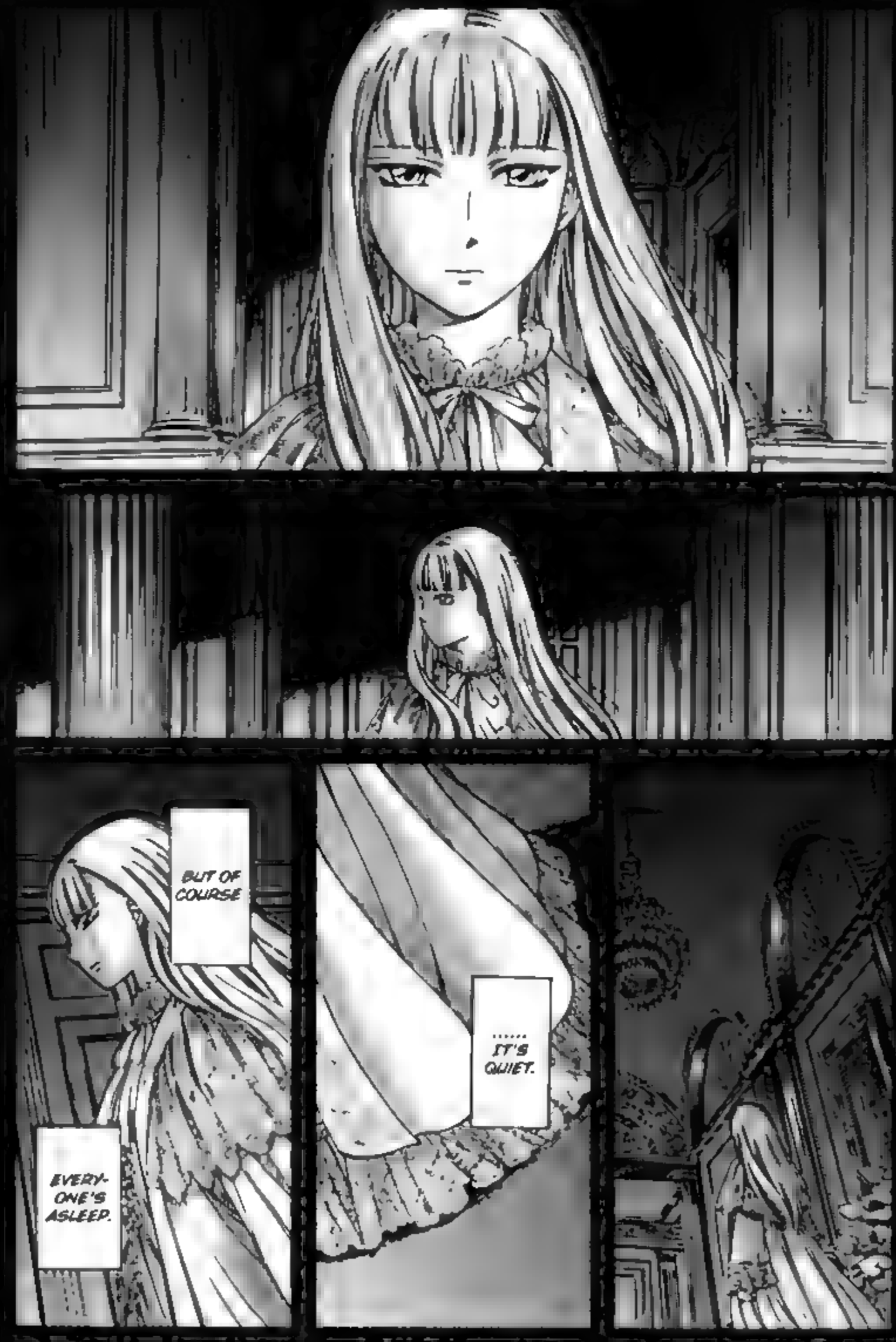




Chapter 48: End

HIDIN' IN THERE AGAIN, ARE YA!?
SUZY!
GETTIN' BACK TO ITS RIGHTFUL
SAID HE'D LOAD IT ON
THAT'S GOOD, AIN'T IT?
TIME FOR DINNER!

Chapter 4:
Flames at Night


BUT OF COURSE
EVERY-ONE'S ASLEEP.
.....
IT'S QUIET.

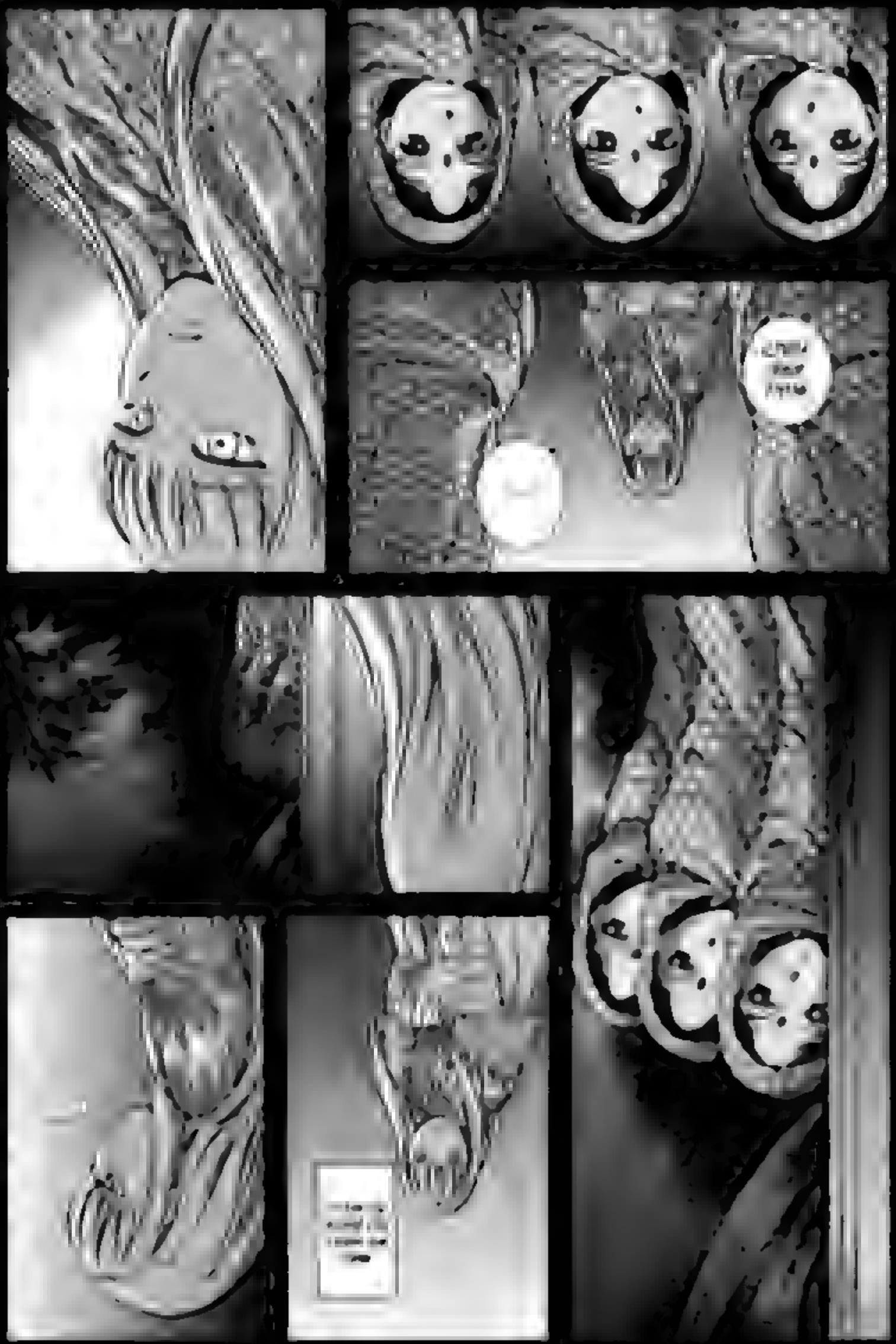
IT COULD ALWAYS BE NIGHT.

I JUST RECALLED THE STORIES I USED TO READ.

IN THEM, THE HEART-BROKEN HEROINE

ALWAYS GOES INTO THE GARDEN AT NIGHT AND CRIES.

IS THAT MY ANSWER?



WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?

PECULIAR.

IT'S AS IF I'M HAVING A DREAM.

ARE YOU GHOSTS? FAIRIES?

WHICHEVER, I'M SURE YOU'LL VANISH BY MORNING

PERHAPS I'LL BE ..

.. ALONE FOREVER

FOR-EVER..

...

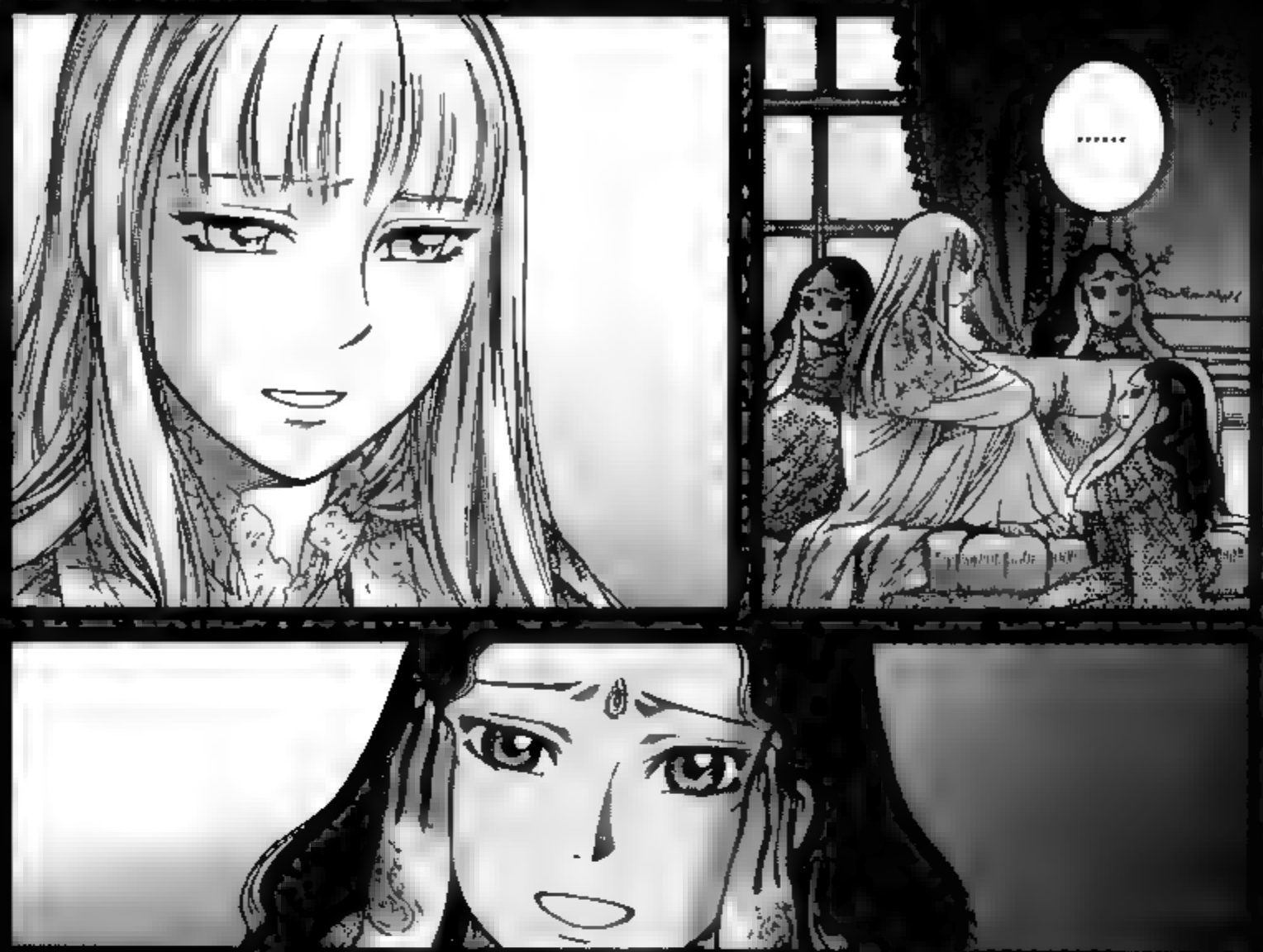
FINE.

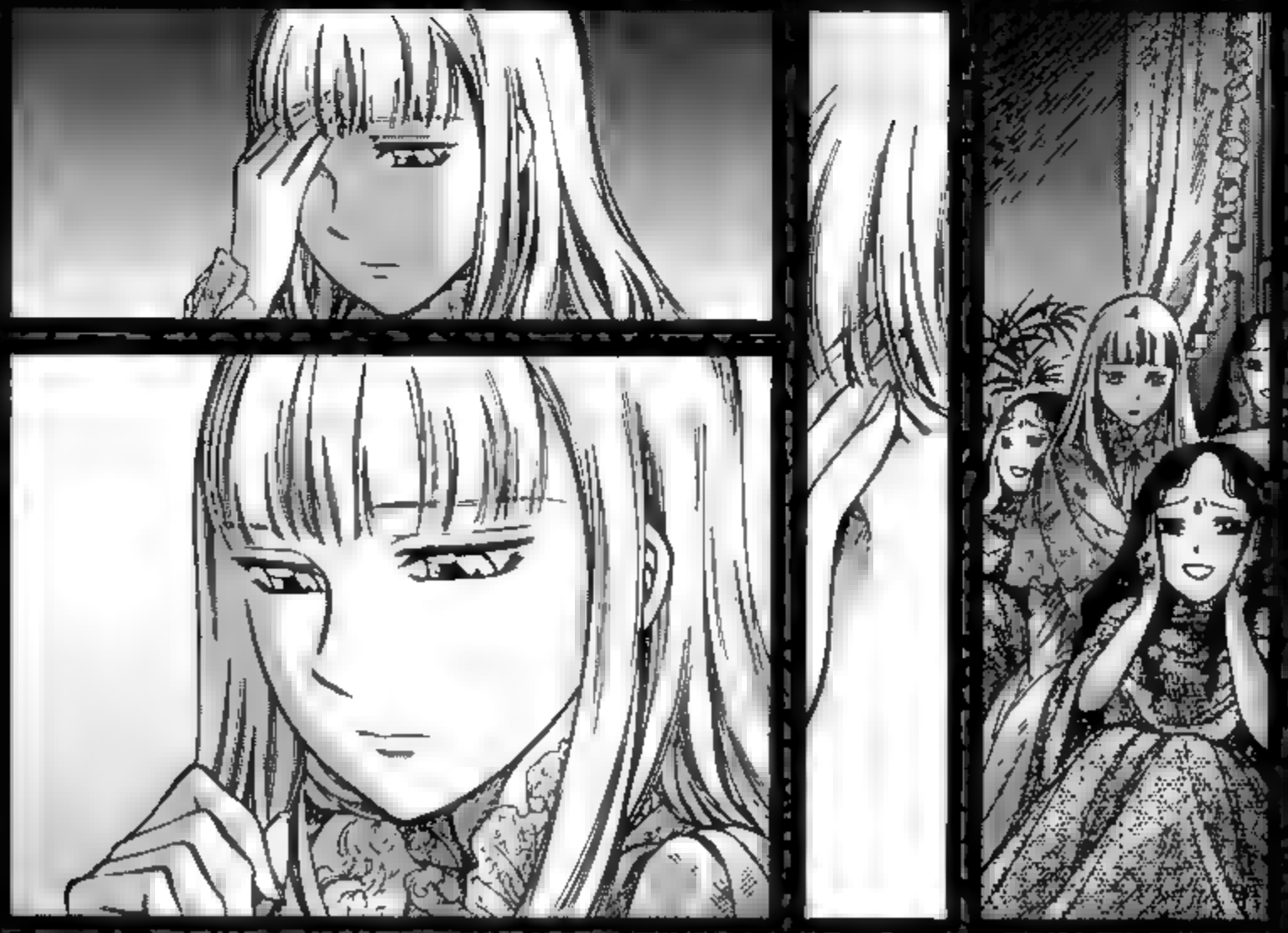
I DON'T CARE ANYMORE

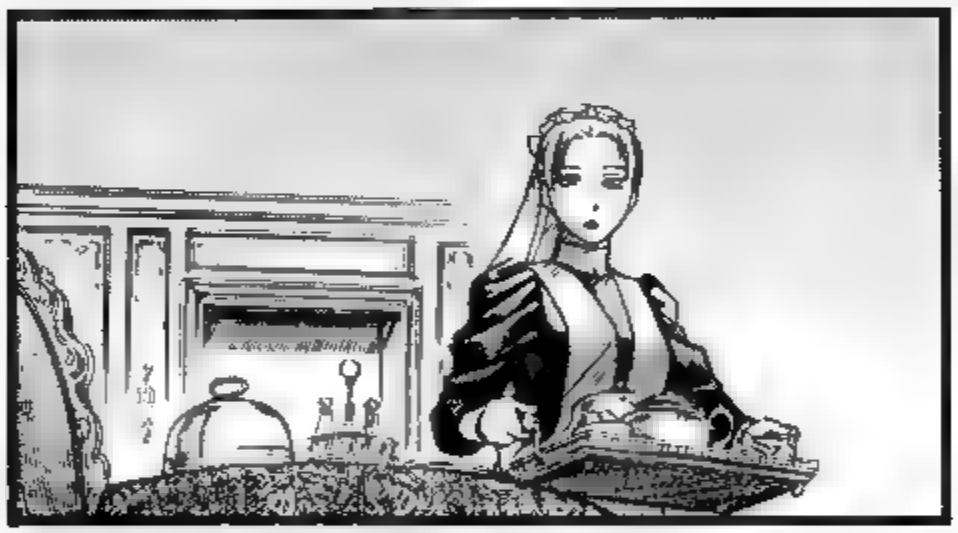
.....

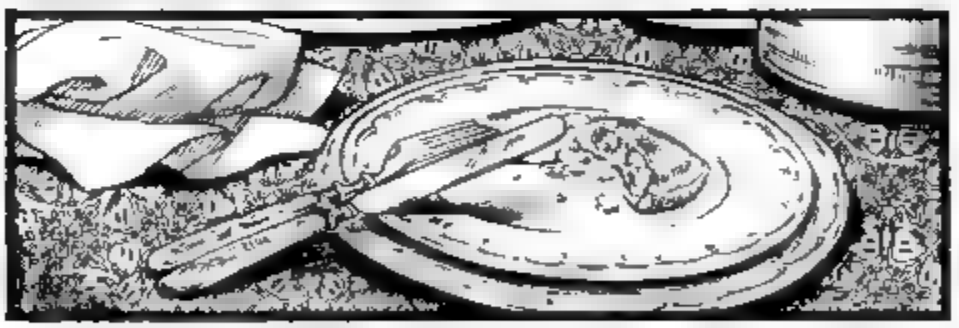
I DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT.

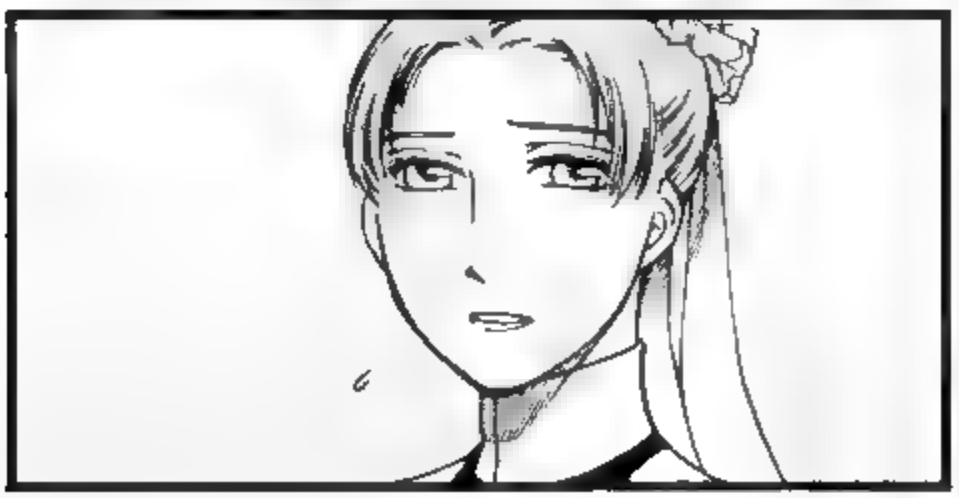
.....

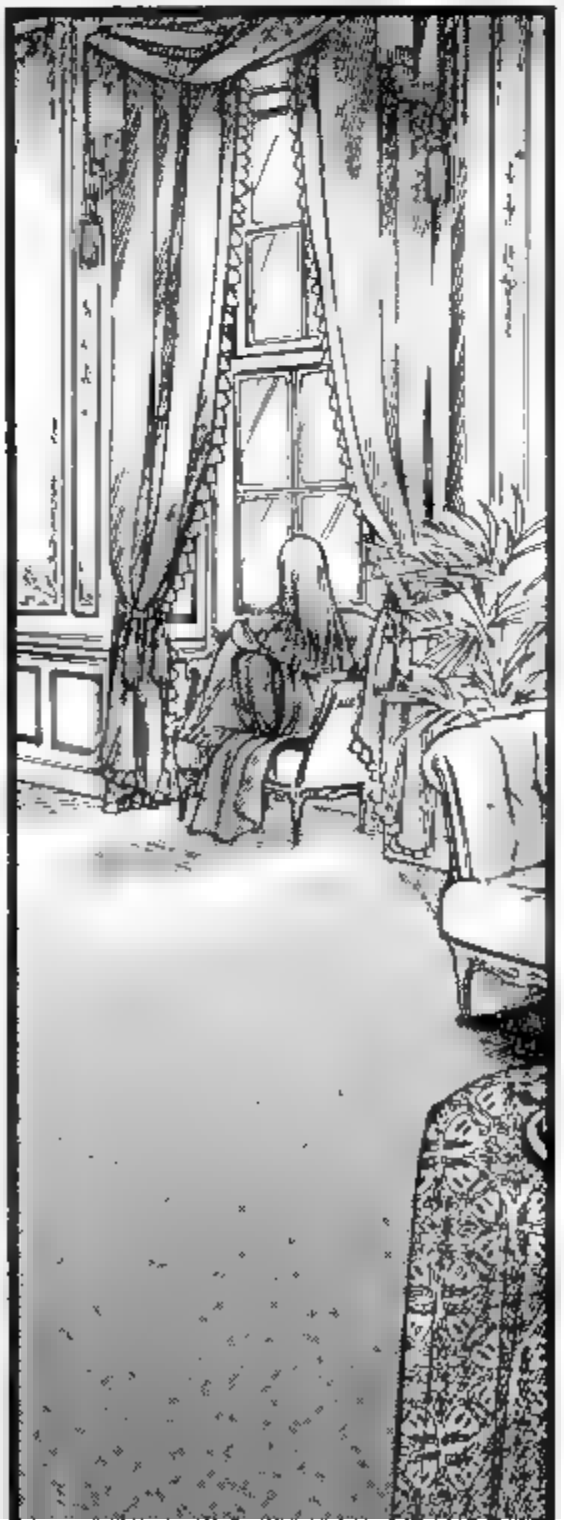












ANNIE.

I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOME TEA, MISS.

SHALL I POUR YOU A CUP?

.....

YES.

...I WANT TO GET DRESSED.

...OF COURSE.

I'LL BRING YOUR CLOTHES RIGHT AWAY.

Chapter 49: End

.....

...AND HAD IT SENT TO OUR SHOP.

A LITTLE GIRL PICKED IT UP OVER THERE...

CERTAINLY, IT'S THE HAT YOU ORDERED FROM US...

...BUT... ...THIS HAS NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE.

STEVENS.

CAN YOU THINK OF SOME-THING...

...THAT WOULD LIKELY PLEASE A LITTLE GIRL?

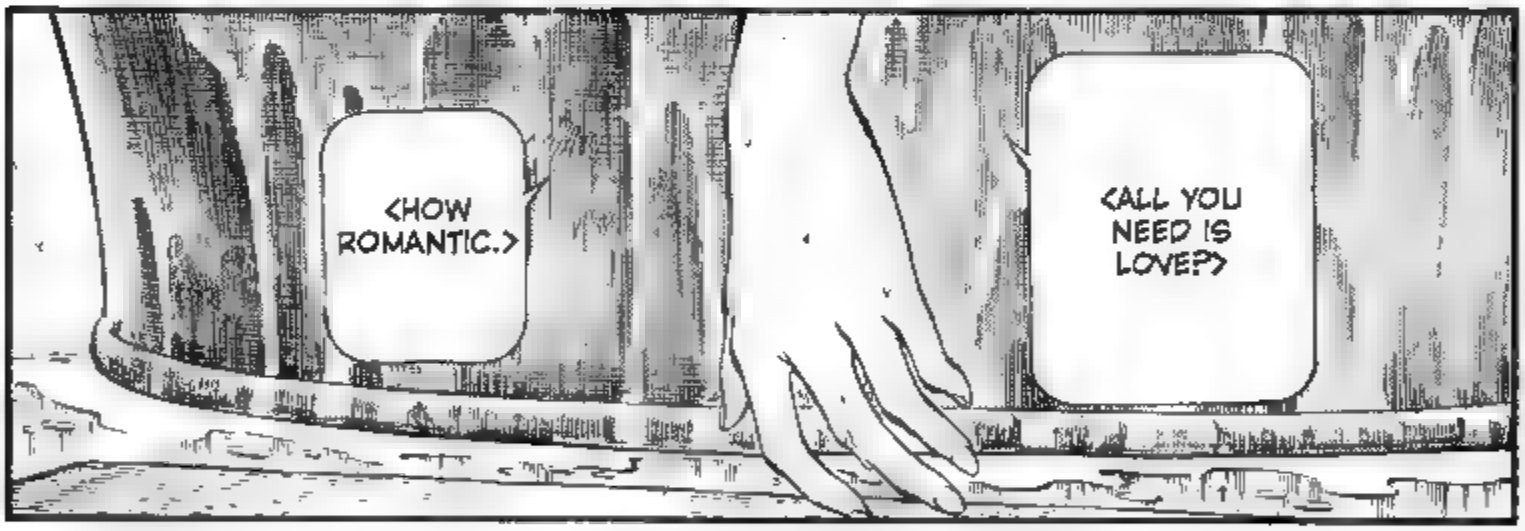
.....

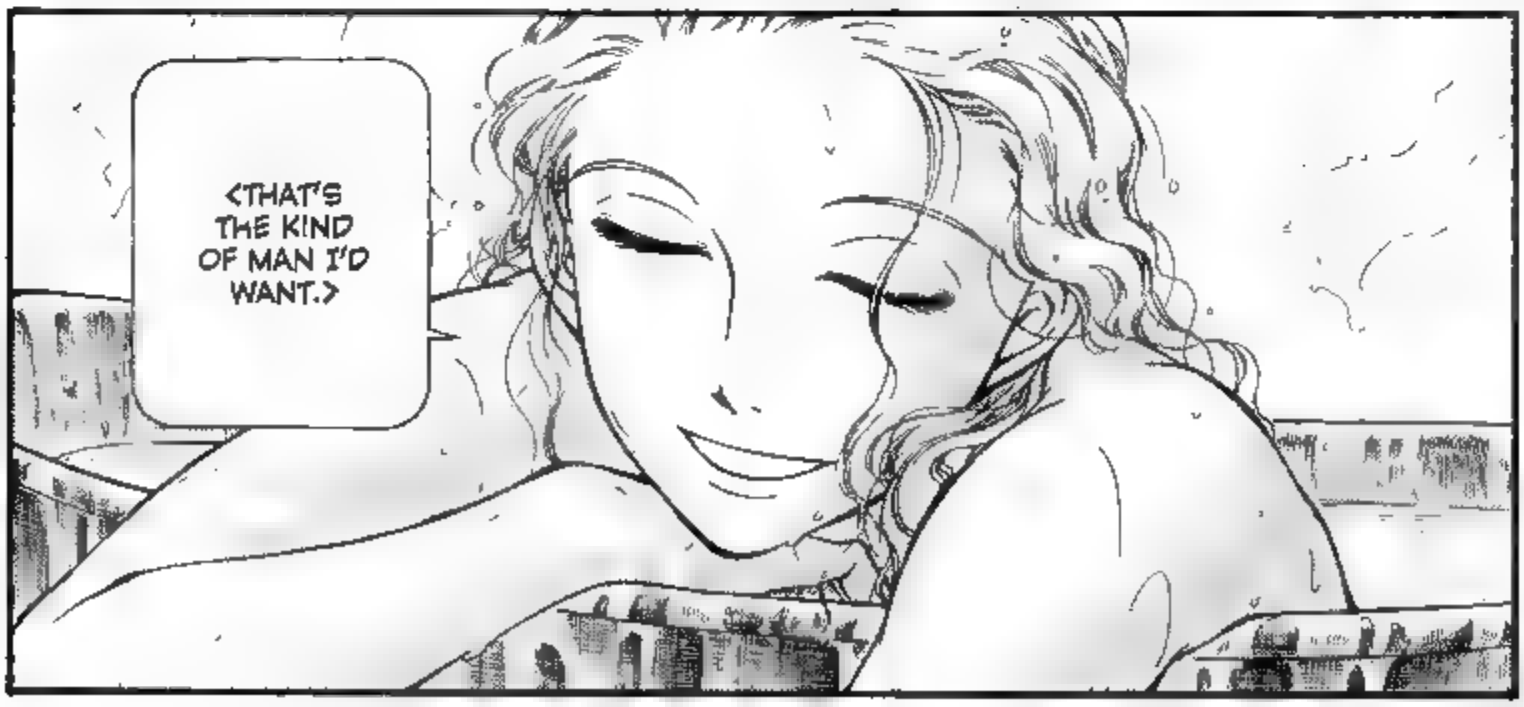
I'LL HAVE TO EXPRESS MY GRATI-TUDE.

<JUST WONDERFUL.>
<A MAID MARRIES A NOBLEMAN...>

<IT'S LIKE A FAIRY TALE, ISN'T IT?>

<HE'S GENTRY.>
<JONES IS NOT A NOBLEMAN.>


<HOW ROMANTIC.>
<ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE?>


<THAT'S THE KIND OF MAN I'D WANT.>

Chapter 50:
The Showdown

<SHALL WE HAVE A BATH TOGETH-ER?>

<HOW, EXACT-LY?>

<HURRY UP AND GET OUT>

<THERE'S NO TIME.>

ZA (SPLASH)

<IN THAT CASE, BE THE LAST ONE TO GET IN.>

<THAT WAY, YOU'LL BE FREE TO RELAX TILL THE WATER TURNS COLD.>

<...I FEEL I CAN REALLY TAKE MY TIME.>

<THE BATHTUB IS THE ONLY PLACE...>

ZABA (SPLISH)

<...AFTER HER FAVOURITE SERVANT'S RUN OFF.>

<IT SOUNDS AS IF THE HEAD MAID IS VENTING HER SPLEEN...>

<WELL, WELL.>

<GOT IT IN ONE.>

<.....>

<SHE COULD HAVE BECOME HEAD MAID >

<CAPABLE PEOPLE...>

<.. ALL SAY THAT.>

<ONE CAN BE GOOD AT DOING EXACTLY AS THEY ARE TAUGHT...>

<...BUT TO GO FURTHER, NATURAL APTITUDE IS NECESSARY.>

<IT'S NOT EFFORT.>

<SURELY YOU JEST.>

<WHY DON'T YOU DO AS SHE DID?>

<BUT THIS WAY, SHE GETS TO HAVE A BIG BATHTUB.>

<AREN'T YOU JEALOUS?>

< . BUT MARRYING ONE OF THEM WOULD BE THE EQUIVALENT OF SHACKLING MYSELF FOR LIFE. I WANT NO PART OF IT >

<FOOLING AROUND WITH NOBLEMEN IS ONE THING .>

<AS IN MAGDALENE, YES?>

<NO, MARIA IS...>

<...THE PEOPLE'S MARIA.>

<AS LONG AS IT'S NOT INSIDE THIS HOUSE.>

<I KNOW, I KNOW >

I'M JUST GETTING OUT.

ARE YOU DONE?

YES, WHY?

OH, YOU WEAR A CORSET.

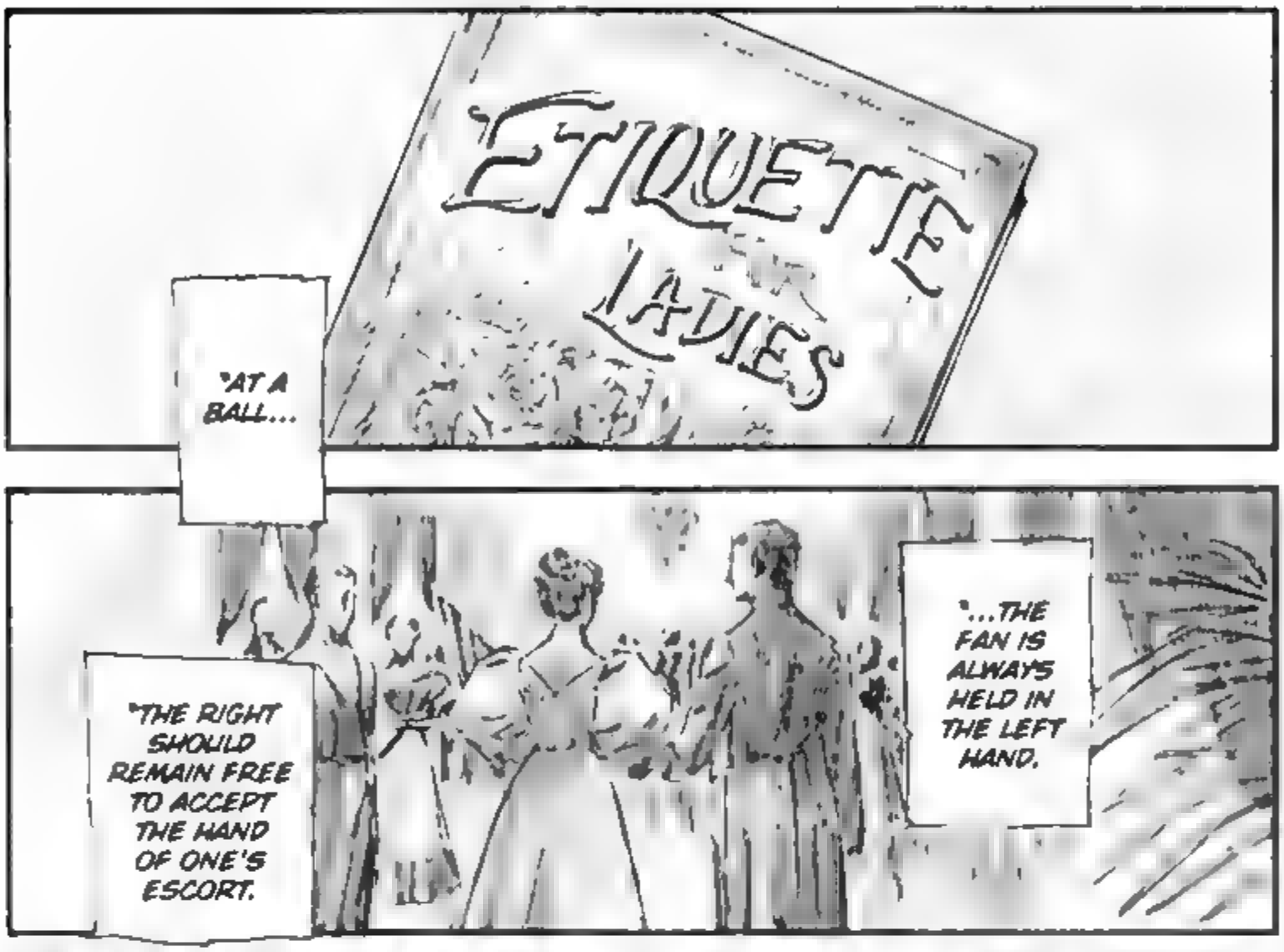
BRRR, IT'S FREEZ-IN'!

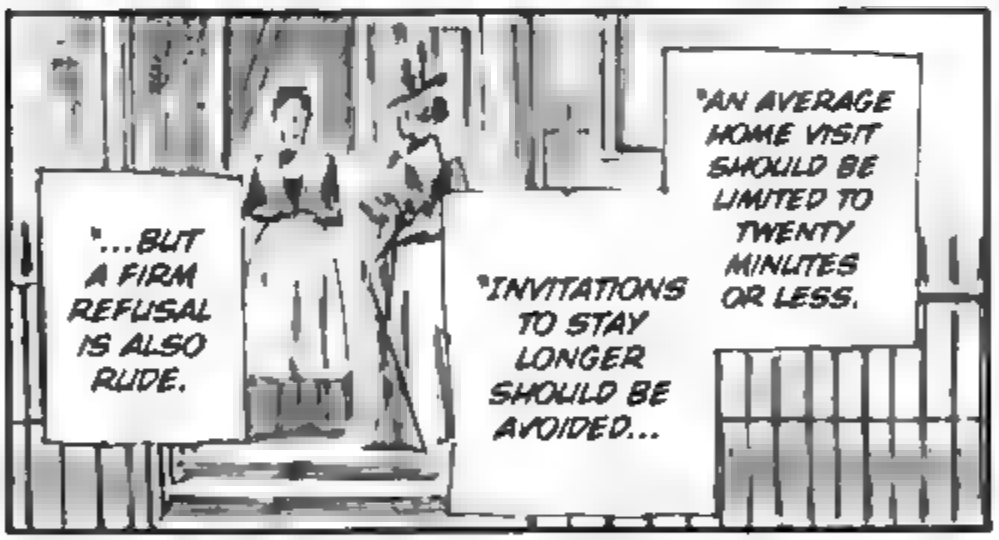
ENER-GETIC, ISN'T SHE.

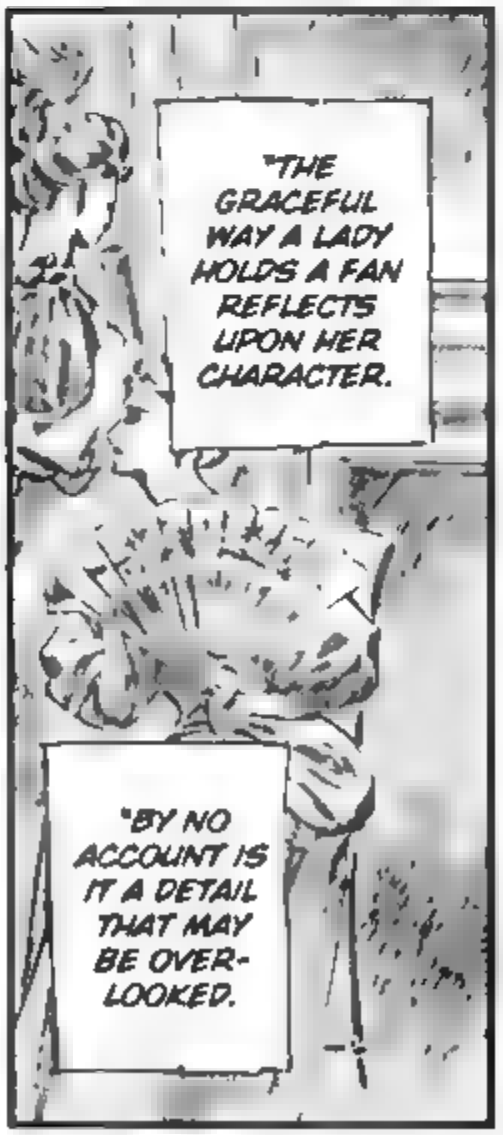
NEXT TIME, KEEP YOUR COMMENTS TO YOUR-SELF!!

WHA ...!?

I DIDN'T THINK YOU NEEDED ONE.


ETIQUETTE
LADIES
"AT A BALL...
"...THE FAN IS ALWAYS HELD IN THE LEFT HAND.
"THE RIGHT SHOULD REMAIN FREE TO ACCEPT THE HAND OF ONE'S ESCORT.


"AN AVERAGE HOME VISIT SHOULD BE LIMITED TO TWENTY MINUTES OR LESS.
"INVITATIONS TO STAY LONGER SHOULD BE AVOIDED...
"...BUT A FIRM REFUSAL IS ALSO RUDE.


"THE GRACEFUL WAY A LADY HOLDS A FAN REFLECTS UPON HER CHARACTER.
"BY NO ACCOUNT IS IT A DETAIL THAT MAY BE OVER-LOOKED.

"GLOVES SHOULD NORMALLY BE WORN AT ANOTHER'S HOUSE...
"...UNLESS THAT PERSON IS A CLOSE FRIEND, IN WHICH CASE IT'S RUDE."

THIS "ALWAYS HELD IN THE LEFT HAND"...

I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT EITHER HAND WOULD DO.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? THE "GRACEFUL WAY" TO HOLD A FAN?

HOLDING IT IN A WAY THAT LOOKS GRACE-FUL.

WHICH ONE IS CORRECT?

AND THIS BOOK STATES THAT IT'S NEVER PERMISSIBLE TO TAKE OFF GLOVES.

NEITHER OF THEM IS RUDE.

GOOD QUES-TION.

.....

.....

I HAVEN'T READ THESE BOOKS IN SUCH A LONG TIME. IT FEELS AS IF I'M TAKING A REFRESHER COURSE.

IT'S AS I TOLD YOU, THIS ISN'T SOMETHING THAT CAN BE TAUGHT.

IT MUST BE LEARNED THROUGH EXPERIENCE AND PRACTICAL APPLICA-TION.

WELL, IT WOULDN'T DO TO RELY OVERLY MUCH ON THEM.

.....

THANK YOU, MARTHA.

WE'RE DONE WITH THESE.

WHAT'S IMPOR-TANT IS THINKING ABOUT IT YOUR-SELF.

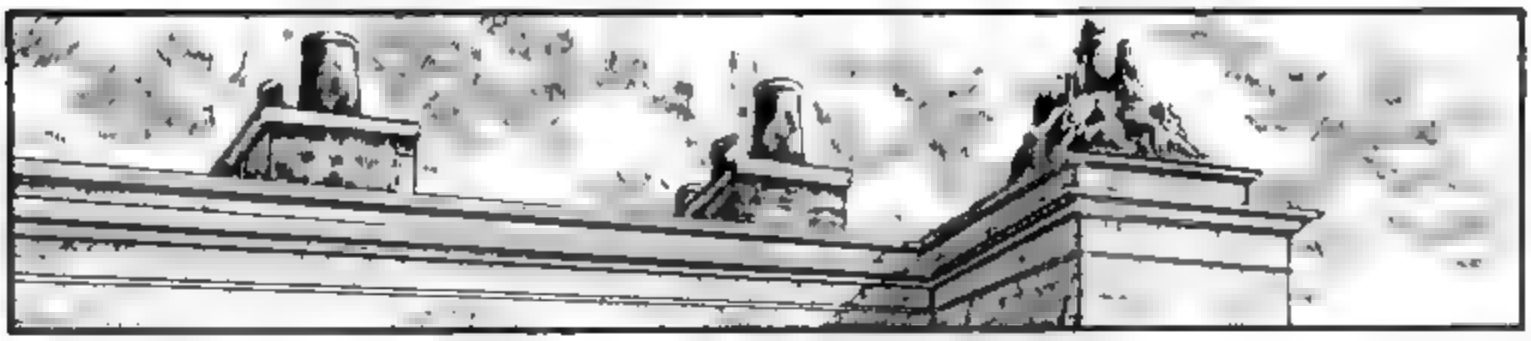
AFTER THAT, IT'S A MATTER OF PRACTICE.

I WAS HOPING THEY WOULD SERVE AS A USEFUL REFERENCE POINT...

...BUT YOU SEEM EVEN MORE CONFUSED THAN BEFORE.

.....

NOW, WHAT KIND OF DRESS WOULD BE NICE FOR NEXT TIME?



STEVENS, WHERE IS THE CARRIAGE?
OUT FRONT, SIR.

THE LIBRARY.

WHAT, ARTHUR?
ARE YOU GOING OUT TOO?

ON FOOT?

IT'S FAR ENOUGH.

GET IN.

IT'S ON THE WAY.

IT'S NOT ALL THAT FAR.

GATA

GATA

GATA (RATTLE)

.....

GATA

GATA

GATA

VERY MUCH SO.

IS GRACE ...

...STILL ANGRY?

.....

I SUSPECTED ALL ALONG IT WOULD TURN OUT LIKE THIS.

...NOT ESPE-CIALLY.

ER...

WELL, YES.

IT IS ABOUT THAT MAID, ISN'T IT?

...I AM MY OWN PERSON.

AND YOU?

WHATEVER HAPPENS TO YOU OR THE FAMILY...

...NOTHING CAN UNDO MY ACHIEVE-MENTS.

I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE.

IT'S FOR TIMES LIKE THESE THAT I'VE BECOME PREFECT.

YOU SHOULD'VE BEEN BORN FIRST.

I'M GLAD I WASN'T.

I AM SORRY ABOUT ALL THIS...

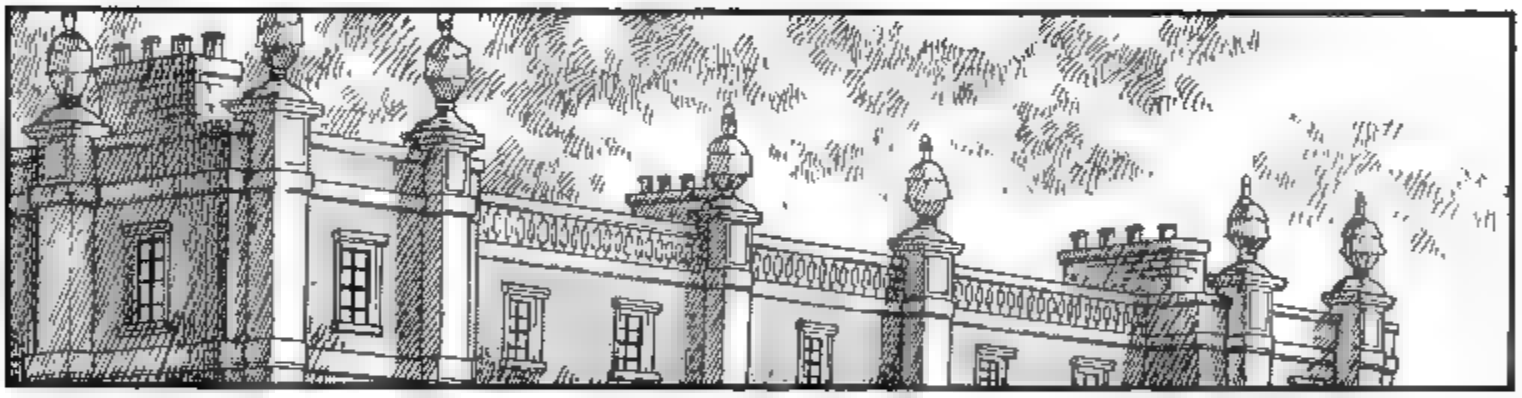
TELL THAT TO GRACE.

I WANT TO, BUT SHE WON'T TALK TO ME.

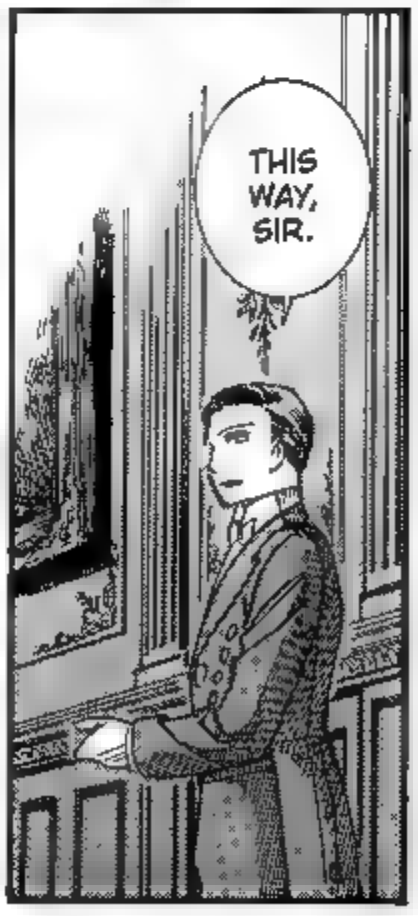
...BUT I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO UNDER-STAND.

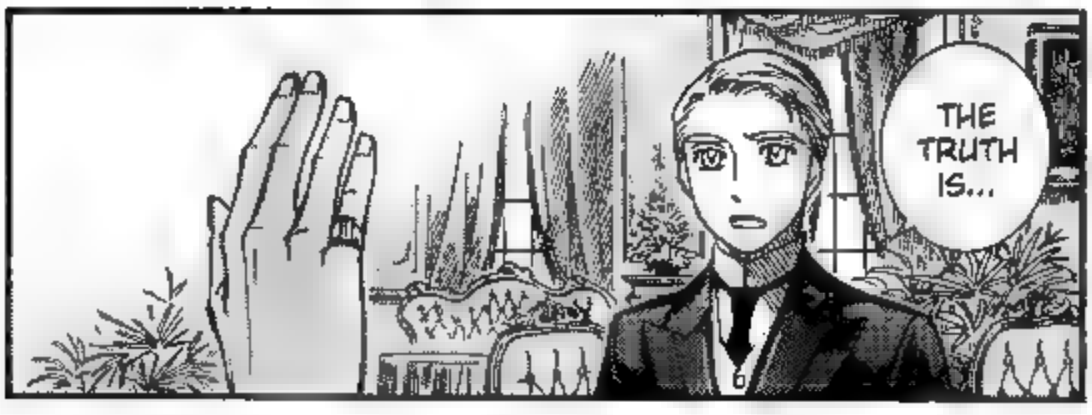
YOU CERTAINLY DO ENJOY WALKING.
WHAT DO YOU CARE?

HOW WILL YOU GET HOME?
WALK.



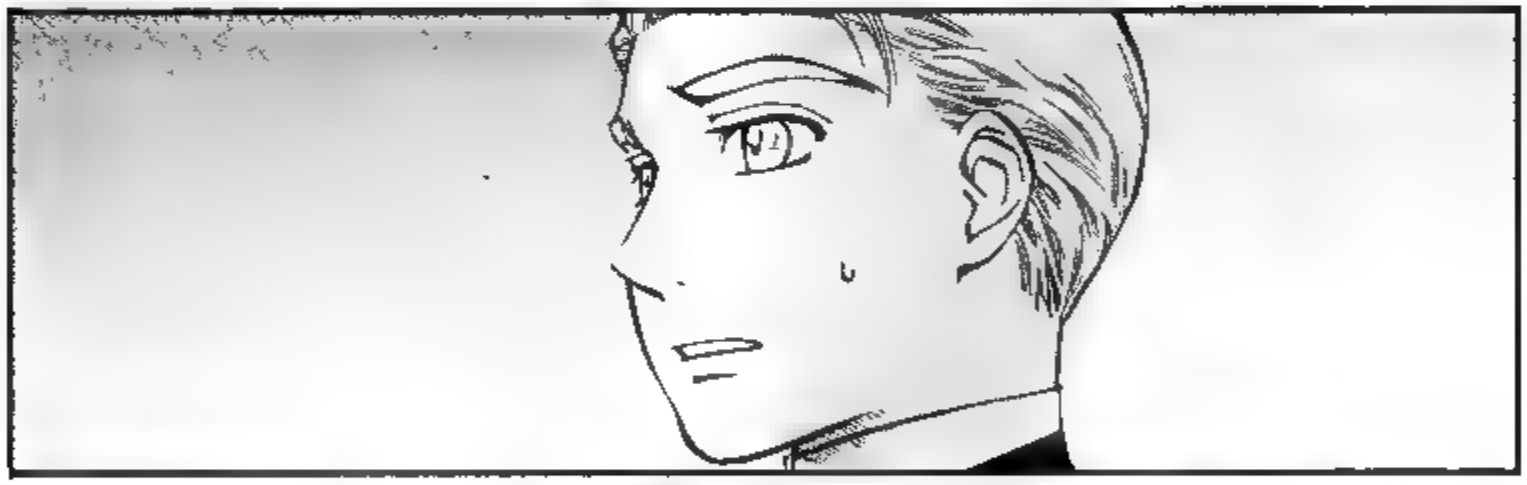
I APOLOGISE FOR TAKING UP YOUR TIME.


THIS WAY, SIR.


THE TRUTH IS...

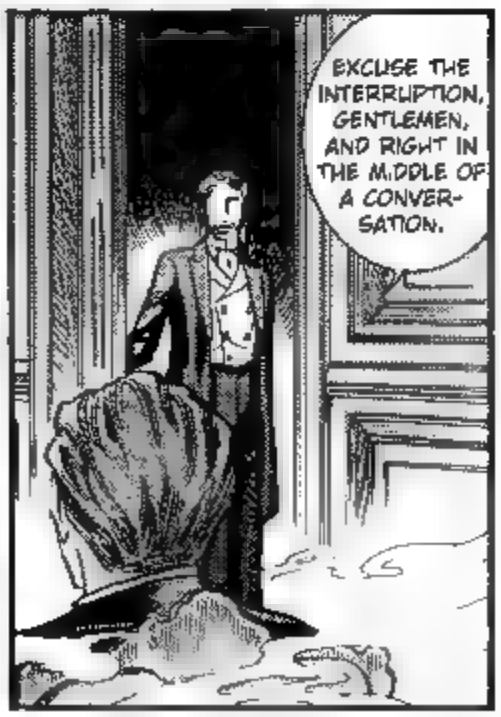
WAIT HERE.
I'LL BE BACK SHORTLY.

OH.
OF COURSE.



IT'S FINE.
PRAY CONTINUE WITH WHAT YOU WERE SAYING BEFORE.

HAS SOMEONE COME TO SEE YOU?
NO.


EXCUSE THE INTERRUPTION, GENTLEMEN, AND RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A CONVER-SATION.

キン
KIN (KETING?)

.....

FREDERICK ...

...PLEASE DON'T CALL HIM "FATHER."

BUT THEY'RE FATHER'S FRIENDS.

...MY STOMACH POSITIVELY CHURNS.

WHEN I THINK OF HOW MANY MEN LIKE HIM ARE OUT THERE...

MONICA...

...I REALLY SHOULD AT LEAST GREET THEM, DON'T YOU THINK?

ABSOLUTELY NOT! I WON'T HAVE IT!

FREDERICK ...

GIVE HIM SOME-THING.

OH, DON'T SAY THAT, FREDERICK.

I KNOW I'VE BEEN A TERRIBLE WIFE!

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW HARD IT'S BEEN FOR ME, DAY IN AND DAY OUT, NOT HAVING YOU BY MY SIDE!?

I'VE BEEN WASTING AWAY WITH WORRY!!

WHAT SHALL I DO?

IN THAT CASE, MONICA...

...WHY DON'T WE GO BACK HOME?

...WHICH MEANS YOU CAN GO BACK TO BEING MY MONICA.

YOU SAID YOUR SISTER'S SPIRITS HAVE IMPROVED GREATLY...

PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME AGAIN!

AAAH! MONICA!

YOU TWO!!

STOP RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!!

WHEN I WAS ALONE IN A FARAWAY COUNTRY, I THOUGHT OF YOU CONSTANTLY.

BUT ..

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS!?

HOW DARE YOU INTERRUPT THIS PRIVATE MOMENT BETWEEN FREDERICK AND ME!?

NO.

THERE'S ONE MORE.

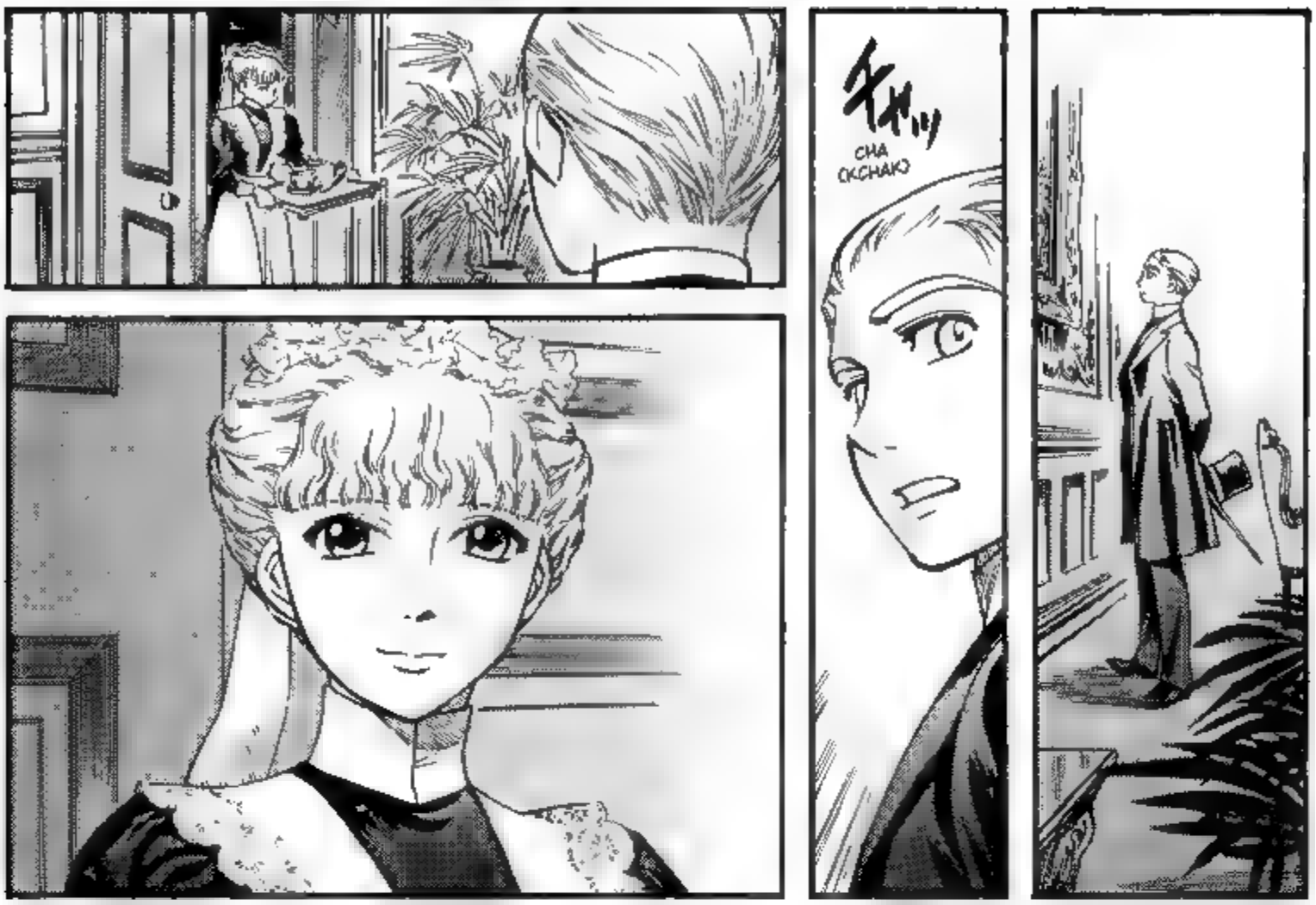
ONE MORE?

WHO IS IT?

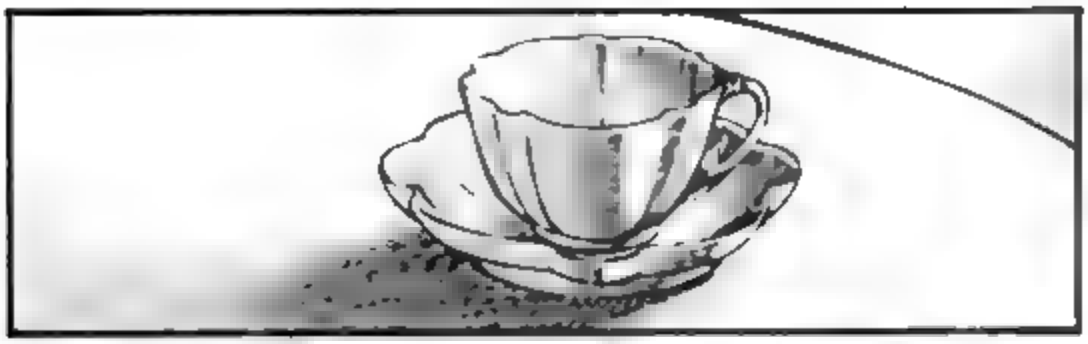
I APOL-OGISE, MA'AM.

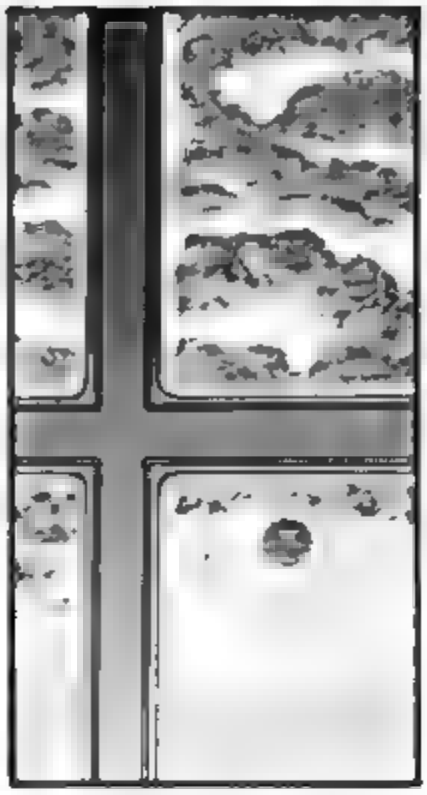
A GUEST HAS COME CALLING AND—

YES, YES, I ALREADY KNOW OF THE GUESTS.

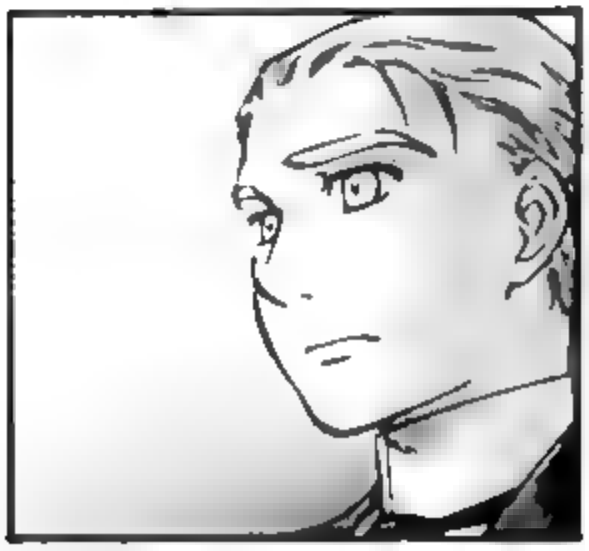

СНА
(ксНАК)

THANK YOU.





YOUR MASTER SAID HE'D BE BACK SOON, BUT IT'S BEEN QUITE A LONG WHILE.
WOULD YOU REMIND HIM I AM WAITING?
CERTAINLY, SIR.



YOU!

IRRI-
TATING
MAN.

EXCUSE
ME,
SIR...

HAVE
HIM
WAIT.

.....

HE TOLD
ME TO
"REMIND"
YOU OF HIS
PRESENCE.

CHA
OCHAVO

VIS-
COUNT.

EXCUSE
ME.

PLEASE, WAIT!

I THOUGHT I INSTRUCTED YOU TO WAIT.

I HAVEN'T FOR-GOTTEN ABOUT YOU.

I WON'T TAKE UP MUCH OF YOUR TIME.

THERE'S JUST SOMETHING I NEED TO CONVEY.

I'M SORRY TO INFORM YOU AFTER THE FACT.

I WAS WONDERING WHAT YOU WANTED.

BUT THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE—

I WOULD LIKE TO CANCEL MY ENGAGEMENT WITH MISS CAMPBELL.

...THAT IS TO SAY, IT'S ALREADY BEEN CANCELLED.

NO!

VIS-COUNT!

I DON'T KNOW HOW MY SPEECH WAS MISINTERPRETED THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE, BUT...

THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SAY ON THE SUBJECT. IT'S ALREADY SETTLED!!

STOP DREDGING IT UP!

I'VE ALREADY SPOKEN TO MISS CAMPBELL, AND—

...I'M SPEAKING IN EARNEST.

I'VE CLEARED UP THAT BUSINESS WITH THE MAID.

SO THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT WHETHER YOU'RE IN A POSITION TO SPEAK ON THE MATTER.

THICK-SKULLED, AREN'T YOU?

.....

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.

LORD, I HAVE EVEN LESS HOPE FOR YOU NOW THAN I DID BEFORE.

I MEAN, DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD OVER A MERE MAID WHO FOLLOWED YOU ABOUT LIKE A PUPPY DOG.

SHE WASN'T FOLLOWING ME AROUND!!

AND EVEN THAT HAD TO BE ARRANGED FOR YOU DUE TO YOUR INCESSANT FOOT-DRAGGING.

THE ONLY REASON I ALLOWED THE MATCH IN THE FIRST PLACE IS BECAUSE YOU ARE A SLIGHTLY BETTER OPTION...

...THAN ALLOWING MY DAUGHTER TO LANGUISH IN SOCIETY UNTIL SHE BECOMES AN OLD MAID.

YOU DID IT!

...I WILL DECIDE WHAT HAPPENS REGARDING THE ENGAGEMENT.

DON'T THINK FOR ONE MOMENT THAT YOUR OPINION MATTERS.

HOWEVER YOU FEEL ABOUT HER... ABOUT EITHER OF THEM...

AS A SOCIAL CLIMBER, YOU SHOULD BEHAVE AS YOUR STATION DEMANDS AND LISTEN OBEDIENTLY TO WHAT THOSE ABOVE YOU SAY.

YOU'RE CAPABLE OF THAT MUCH, AREN'T YOU?

SO THAT'S THE WAY YOU THINK, IS IT, VISCOUNT?

...I UNDER-STAND.

I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE A COUNT, VISCOUNT, OR DUKE.

FROM THIS POINT ON, I WILL HAVE NOTHING MORE TO DO WITH YOU!

THE ENGAGE-MENT ASIDE...

...I HAVE NO INTENTION OF SUBMITTING TO SUCH ILL TREATMENT WITHOUT VOICING COMPLAINT.

EVEN "SOCIAL CLIMBERS" HAVE PRIDE!!

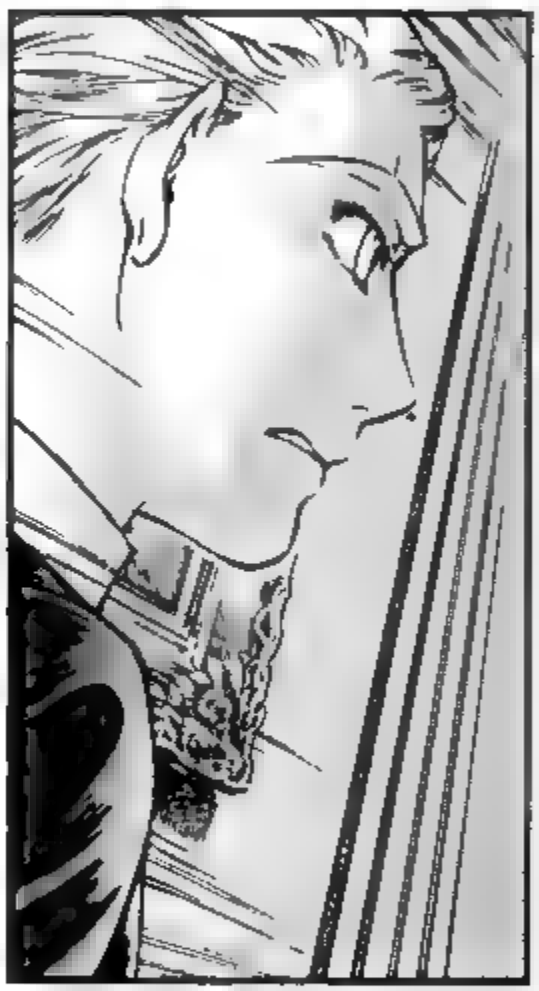
DO AS YOU WILL, SIR!!

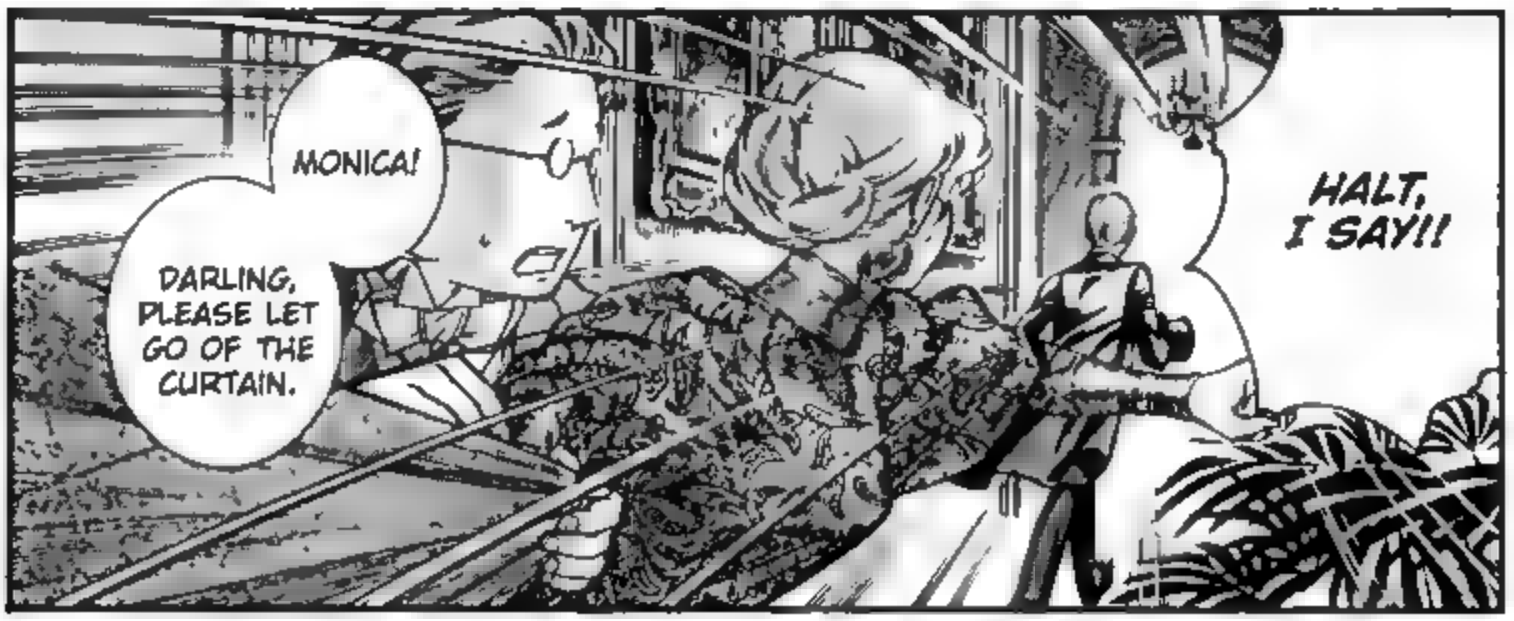
EXCUSE ME!!

VERY WELL.

WAIT, WILLIAM JONES!

YOU DIDN'T...!!
YOU DARED TO BREAK THE ENGAGEMENT WITH MY ELEANOR!?




MONICA!
DARLING, PLEASE LET GO OF THE CURTAIN.
HALT, I SAY!!

CARRIAGE!!

GAN
(SLAM)

BUT THE LAST TRAIN...
TO THE STATION !!
HAVE THEM GALLOP ALL THE WAY!!

HENCE-FORTH, THE CAMPBELLS SHALL NEVER ATTEND A FUNCTION IN WHICH THE JONESES TAKE PART!!

NOTIFY EVERY-ONE!!

YOU ARE NEVER TO LET THAT MAN IN THIS HOUSE AGAIN!!

THAT GOES FOR HIS SERVANTS AS WELL!

FATHER!

WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY WHAT YOU SAID TO HIM!?

AH!!

I DON'T CARE IF HE IS A COUNT, SPARE HIM NO QUARTER IF YOU HAVE TO THROW HIM OUT.

SEE THAT BOTH OF THEM ARE GONE BY TOMORROW MORNING.

YES, SIR.

YOU'RE STILL HERE?

I TOLD YOU ALREADY, THIS IS MY HOUSE.

NOW, COLLECT YOUR FOPPISH HUSBAND AND LEAVE.

YOU'RE AN EMBAR-RASSMENT.

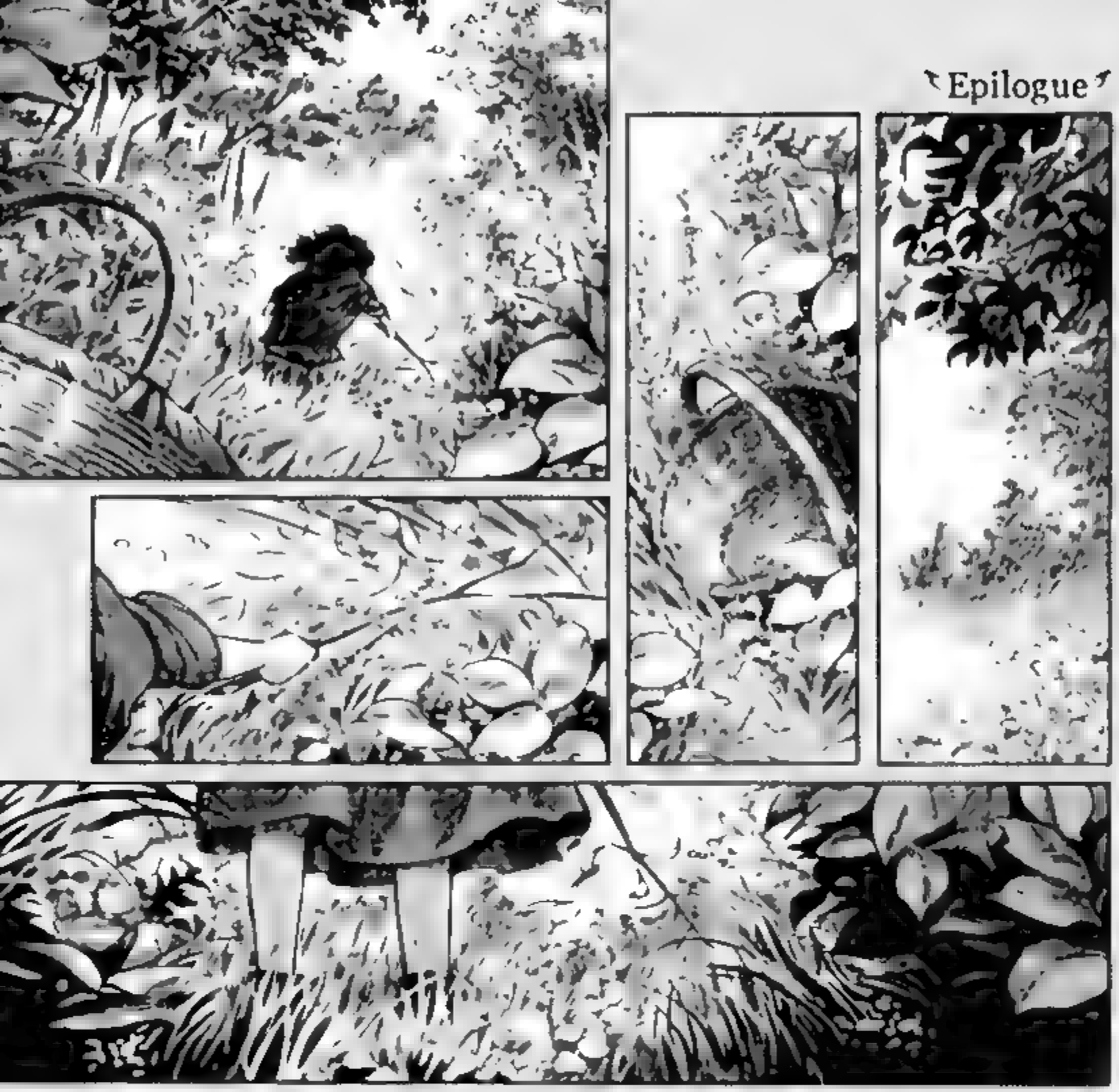
TOSSED AWAY BY THE NOUVEAU RICHE...

SEND HER AWAY TO A HEALTH RESORT.

AND DON'T LET HER RETURN UNTIL I GIVE THE WORD.

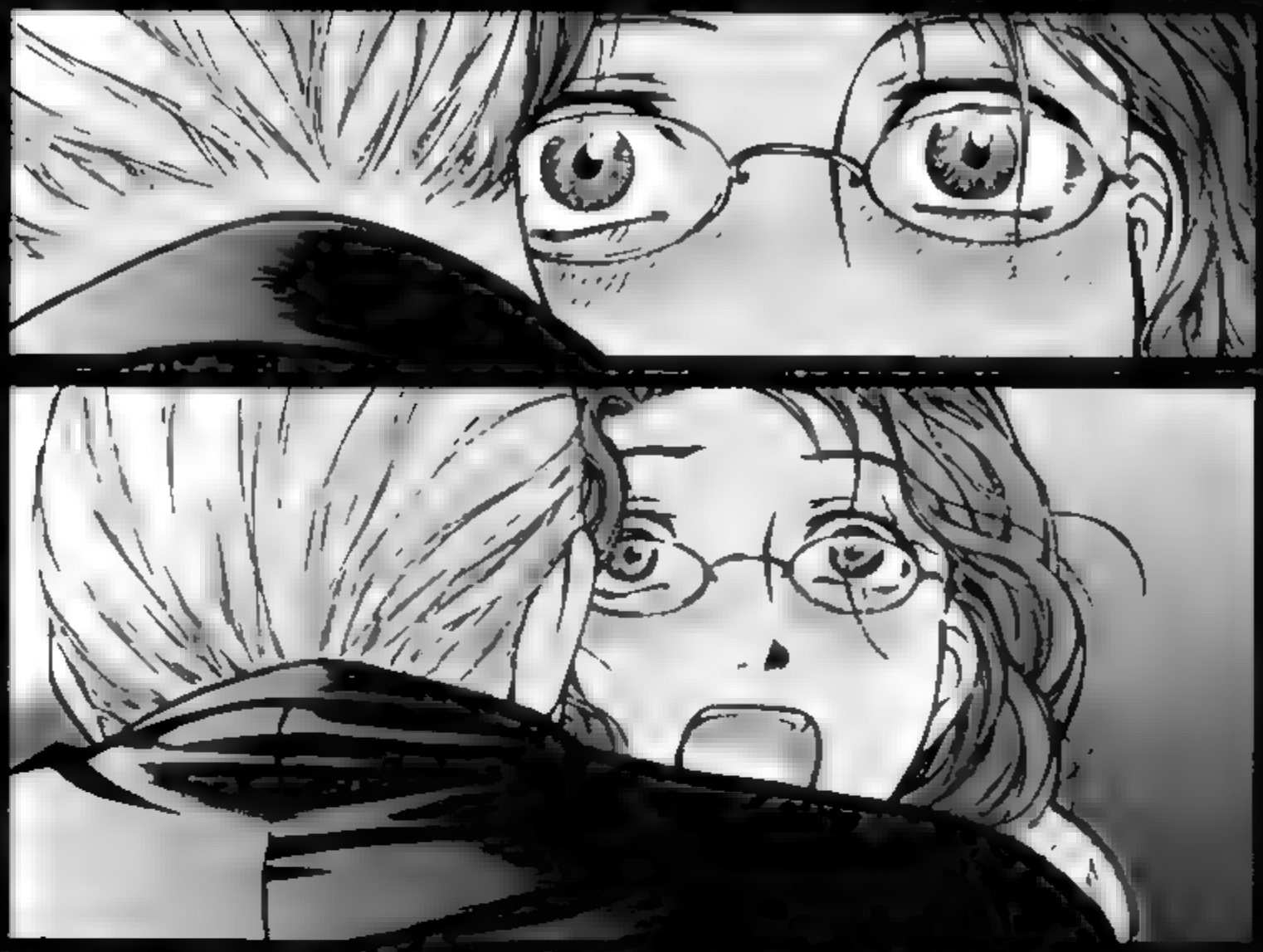
DAR-LING!!

Chapter 50: End



MR. JONES ...!!

Chapter 51
The Feelings of Two People



OH.

OH MY.

WHO IS IT?

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS...

...I'LL PROTECT YOU.

SOME-DAY...

...WHEN YOU'RE READY...

...PLEASE MARRY ME.

Em

.....
I WILL...

I'M SORRY.

.....

I'M GOING TO MARRY HER.

OH.

I SEE.

I MEAN...

...I THOUGHT THAT WAS YOUR PLAN, BUT...

I APOLOGISE FOR COMING SO LATE AT NIGHT.

NEXT TIME...

...I SHALL VISIT WHEN IT'S LIGHT.

.....

HAVE YOU HEARD?

THE CAMPBELL FAMILY HAS BROKEN OFF ALL TIES WITH THE JONES FAMILY!!

IS IT TRUE!?

NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, MADAM.

THE CAMPBELL FAMILY'S CUT OFF THE JONES FAMILY!?

NO!!

IT'S TRUE!

I HEARD IT STRAIGHT FROM ONE OF THE GIRLS WHO WORKS THERE!

WHY, OF COURSE!

ALL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FAMILIES HAVE BEEN SEVERED.

IT SEEMS YOUNG MR. JONES DID SOMETHING TO INCUR THE VISCOUNT'S DISPLEA-SURE.

SO THE ENGAGE-MENT'S BEEN CALLED OFF!?

I ALWAYS THOUGHT...

...THE JONESES WERE AN ODD FAMILY.

GET ME THE INVITATION LIST FOR NEXT MONTH'S BANQUET!!

AT ONCE, MADAM.

JAMES !!

JAMES !!

THE INVITATIONS HAVEN'T GONE OUT YET, HAVE THEY?

NO, MADAM.

Esther
Ulrich
William Jones
Kl (GKRITCH)
Millet
Jerry
Rich

WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON, THE CAMPBELLS' OR THE JONESES'?

REALLY, THAT'S WHAT IT COMES DOWN TO.

AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, OF COURSE THE ANSWER IS...

The Guardian

WELL, YOU KNOW THE VISCOUNT.

JUST BEING ON FRIENDLY TERMS WITH THE JONES FAMILY, ONE RISKS BECOMING EMBROILED IN THE WHOLE AFFAIR.

KO
KO (OK)
KO
KO
KO
コッ
コッ
コッ
コッ
コッ

CHA (KCHAK)
チャ!!

KON (KNOCK)
KON
KON
コンコンコン
COME IN.

YES, SIR.

IS THAT ALL?

MASTER WILLIAM.

ROBERT HALFORD IS HERE TO SEE YOU.

MY...

WORD DOES TRAVEL FAST.

HI, OLD BEAN.

OH, COME OFF IT. I DON'T LIVE UNDER A ROCK.

YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLE WITH THAT VISCOUNT, AREN'T YOU?

ROBERT!

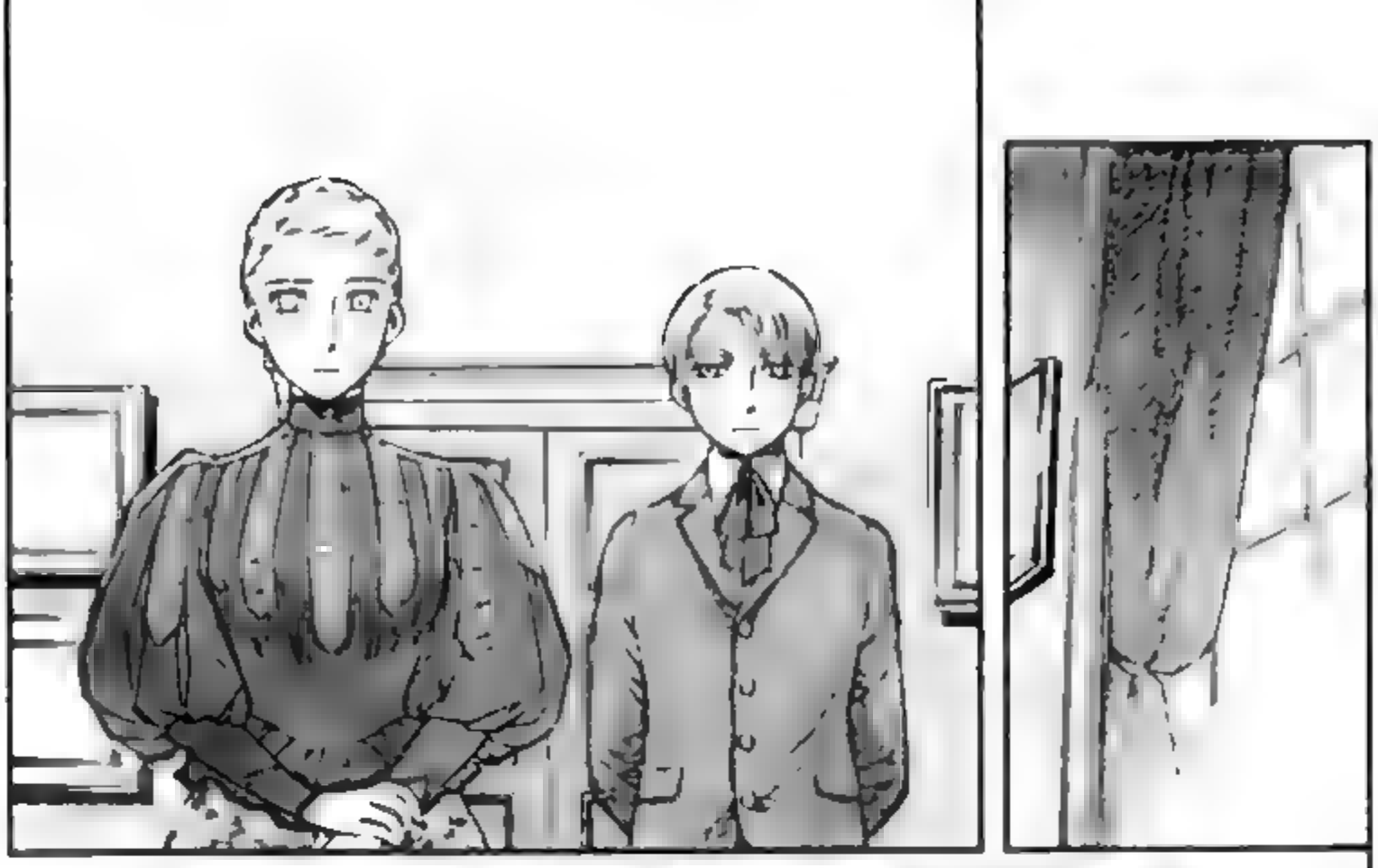
THIS IS A SURPRISE. WHAT'S WRONG?

I'D BE INTERESTED TO HEAR WHAT HAPPENED.

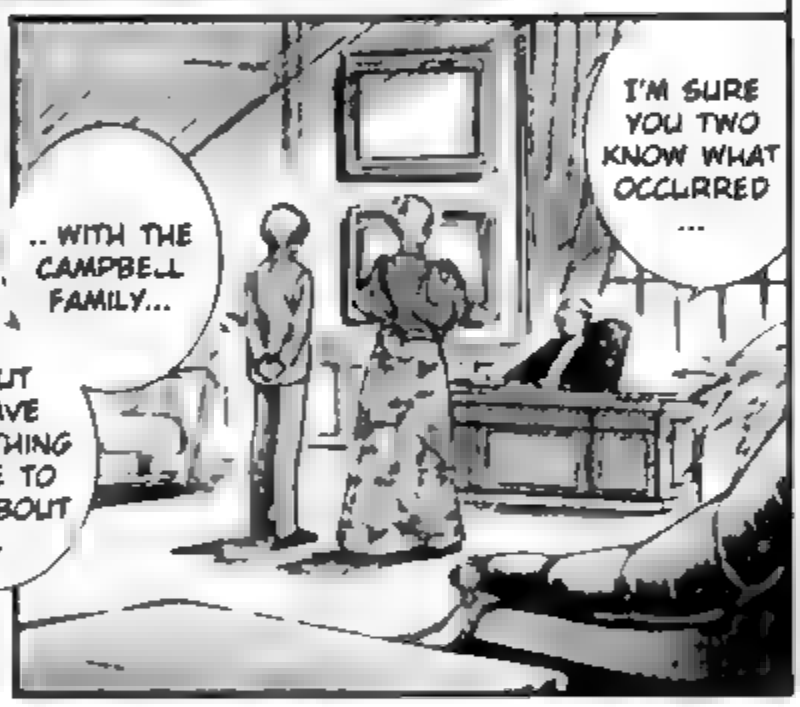
AS MUCH AS YOU FEEL AT LIBERTY TO SAY.

IT'S THE TALK OF THE TOWN.

YES, I HAD AN INKLING IT MIGHT BE.



...BUT I HAVE SOMETHING MORE TO SAY ABOUT IT.


.. WITH THE CAMPBELL FAMILY...
I'M SURE YOU TWO KNOW WHAT OCCURRED ...

SPEAK YOUR MIND.

WHAT IS IT, GRACE?

I WILL NOT.

...FATHER.

ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE WILLIAM YOUR ASSENT?

I COULD CUT WILLIAM OFF WITHOUT A SHILLING UNTIL HE BEGS FOR FORGIVE-NESS...

...BUT EVEN THAT WOULDN'T APPEASE A MAN LIKE THE VISCOUNT.

...IT WOULD BE BETTER TO BE SEEN AS A PARENT WHO IS OVERLY LENIENT WHEN IT COMES TO HIS CHILDREN.

FOR THE SAKE OF THE FAMILY BUS NESS, RATHER THAN FORSAKE MY OWN FLESH AND BLOOD AND BE THOUGHT HEARTLESS...

I COULD NEVER APPROVE OF WHAT HE'S DONE...

...BUT HE HAS DONE IT, AND NOW WE MUST DEAL WITH THE REALITY OF THE SITUA-TION.

HOWEVER, IF YOU DO HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH CERTAIN PARTIES...

...CAREFULLY ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN THOSE RELATIONS.

REFRAIN FROM SENDING OUT INVITATIONS TO THE CAMPBELLS AND OTHER FAMILIES THEY'RE KNOWN TO BE CLOSE TO...

... ESPECIALLY IF YOU BELIEVE THOSE FAMILIES WILL FEEL UNEASY REFUSING ONE FROM US.

AS SUCH, I HAVE DECIDED TO STAY THE ORIGINAL COURSE AND HAVE WILLIAM TAKE OVER THE BUSINESS.

HE WILL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS OWN ACTIONS.

.....

THOUGH WILLIAM PRECIPITATED THE INCIDENT, ALL OF US WILL LIKELY BE TARRED WITH THE SAME BRUSH.

...NO MATTER WHAT IS SAID TO YOU, DISREGARD IT.

UNDERSTOOD.

I GUARANTEE YOU WILL HAVE AS MUCH AS YOU NEED FOR SCHOOL EXPENSES.

THAT IS, SCHOOL ...

...HAS NO RELATION TO SOCIETY.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, ARTHUR?

AS LONG AS I...

...CAN GET INTO OXFORD.

THAT'S ALL.

YOU'RE EXCUSED.

FATHER ...

...I CAN'T BE A DEBU-TANTE?

WHAT IS IT...

...VIVIAN?

IF YOU THINK SOCIETY IS FITTING FOR YOU, I SHALL HAVE YOU PARTICIPATE IN IT.

IF NOT, YOU WON'T.

IT WILL BE UP TO YOU.

.....

I KNEW... THOUGHT I KNEW...

...THAT YOU HAD A CERTAIN ECCENTRIC STREAK.

WELL...

...I DON'T QUITE KNOW WHAT TO SAY...

IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T SYMPATHISE WITH YOU, OLD CHAP.

AFTER ALL, MATTERS OF THE HEART ARE OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF HUMAN INTELLECT.

ARE YOU GOING TO MARRY HER?

YES.

SO...

...WHERE IS THE ONE YOU DO LOVE?

ELSE-WHERE AT THE MOMENT.

BUT THIS...

...SEEMS TO HAVE THE SIDE EFFECT OF TREATING MISS CAMPBELL CRUELLY, DOESN'T IT?

...I KNOW.

I TOO...

...MUST DEAL WITH...

...THE PROB-LEMS...

...ARISING OUT OF...

BUT...

...IT LOOKS LIKE IT WON'T HAPPEN ANYTIME SOON.

SAY NO MORE.

PERHAPS YOU'D BE BETTER OFF NOT VISITING HERE SO OFTEN.

OF COURSE, THERE WOULD BE NO DIRECT REPERCUS-SIONS...

ROBERT.

I SHALL DO WHAT I LIKE...

...WHATEVER ANYONE THINKS OF ME.

BESIDES ...

HA HA HA HA!!

...BUT YOU MIGHT BE MADE TO FEEL AWKWARD IN COMPANY...

HAVE YOU LET THE VISCOUNT INTIMIDATE YOU?

HOW FAINT-HEARTED YOU'VE BECOME!

AND THERE'S NEVER BEEN A COWARD IN THE HALFORD FAMILY?

...I COME FROM A LINE OF SOLDIERS.

WELL, IT'S TRUE.

IN ANY CASE, I DON'T FIND MYSELF AT THE SAME SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AS THE CAMPBELLS.

ONCE.

A LONG TIME AGO.

HAVE I TOLD YOU THAT BEFORE?

NOT FOR YOUR SAKE...

...BUT TO PROTECT THE HONOUR OF MISS CAMPBELL.

WELL, I APPRECIATE YOUR CANDOUR ...

...AND I SHALL REMAIN SILENT ON THE MATTER.

THANK YOU.

IF THE OPPORTUNITY EVER PRESENTS ITSELF, INTRODUCE ME TO YOUR PARAMOUR.

YOU'VE ROUSED MY CURIOSITY.

HE'S A GOOD FRIEND.

YES.

I CANNOT LET THIS DISPLAY OF TYRA[redacted]Y PASS!

COME HOME WITH ME...

...ELEANOR.

FREDERICK WOULDN'T MIND.

AFTER ALL, YOU ARE MY LITTLE SISTER.

.....

MONICA ...

I WOULD ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY AND USE ALL OF THE LOVE I COULD MUSTER...

...TO TAKE CARE OF YOU!

I'VE GOT IT!

I'LL HAVE A CONSER-VATORY BUILT JUST FOR YOU!

YOU COULD CLAIM AS MANY ROOMS AS YOU LIKE!!

THE DRAWING ROOM, THE CONSER-VATORY...

WITH FERNS AND ORCHIDS AND PARIAN MARBLE...

AND A FOUNTAIN IN THE CENTER!

WE SHALL TAKE TEA THERE EVERY AFTERNOON.

LET'S DO IT, ELEANOR!!

WAIT!

IT WILL BE A MUCH BETTER ATMO-SPHERE FOR YOU!!

WAIT A MOMENT, MONICA!

COME HOME WITH ME NOW!!

MONICA ...

IT'LL BE LOVELY.

NO.

I'M NOT GIVING IN.

ELEA-NOR!!

YOU HAVE NO REASON TO GIVE IN TO THAT DESPOT...!!

...AND BESIDES ...

...I'D LIKE TO HAVE SOME TIME ALONE TO THINK.

I FEEL INCLINED TO A CHANGE IN SCENERY ANYWAY...

THANK YOU...

...BUT...

...I THINK I WILL DO AS FATHER SAYS.

ELEANOR ...

BATA (TROMP)

BATA

BATA

BATA

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.

I'LL BE FINE, MONICA.

BUT...

THERE YOU ARE, MONICA!

ARE YOU READY!?

YES.

YES, FRED-ERICK.

WILL YOU REALLY, ELEANOR!?

I'LL WRITE YOU EVERY DAY.

.....

I PROM-ISE.

DON'T FORGET!!

PROMISE IT!!

BUT IF YOU EVER FEEL LONELY, YOU CAN COME STAY HOWEVER LONG YOU LIKE!!

OUR DOORS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO YOU!!

FREDERICK, MY LOVE.

YOU KNOW THAT I'VE NEVER DISAGREED WITH YOUR OPINION BEFORE.

BUT PLEASE FORGIVE ME WHEN I SAY, IN THIS CASE, YOU'RE WRONG.

HE MUST'VE KNOWN I WAS ANXIOUS TO RETURN HOME...

...AND THOUGHT-FULLY WANTED TO PREVENT ANY FURTHER DELAYS.

I HAD NO IDEA HOW KIND YOUR FATHER WAS.

HE HAD THE CARRIAGE OUT FRONT FOR US WITH ALL OF OUR LUGGAGE LOADED AND READY TO DEPART!

ANNIE...

THIS WILL BE GOOD-BYE FOR US TOO FOR A WHILE.

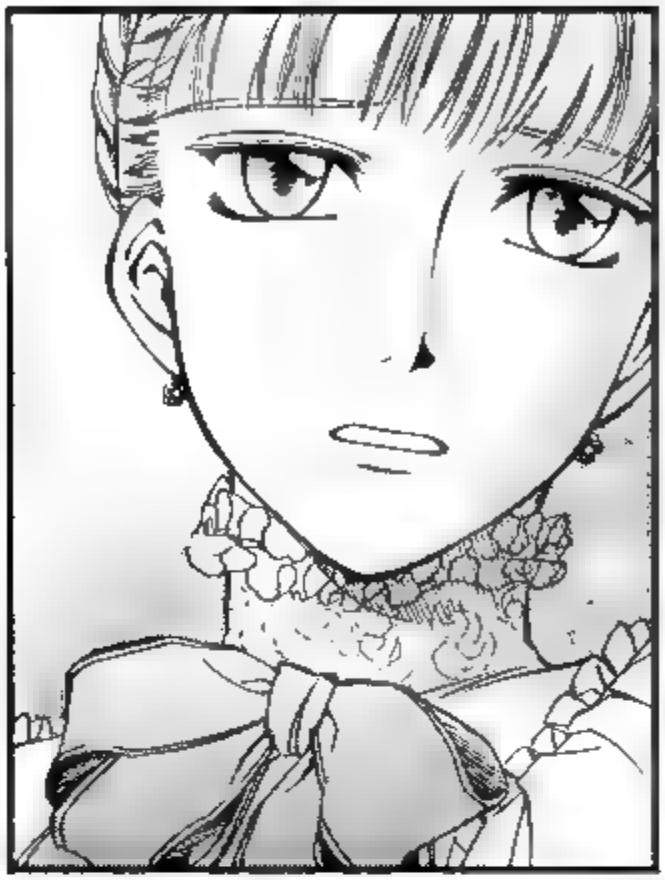
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING.

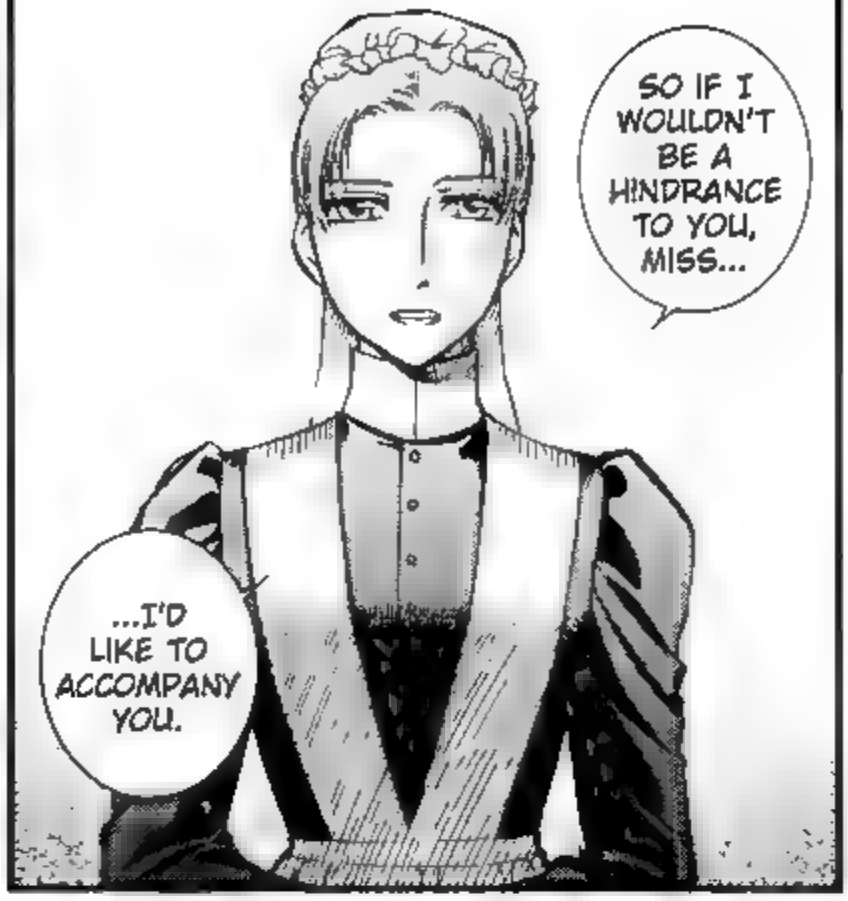
HEALTH RESORT OR NOT, YOU'LL NEED SOMEONE TO BE YOUR SERVANT...

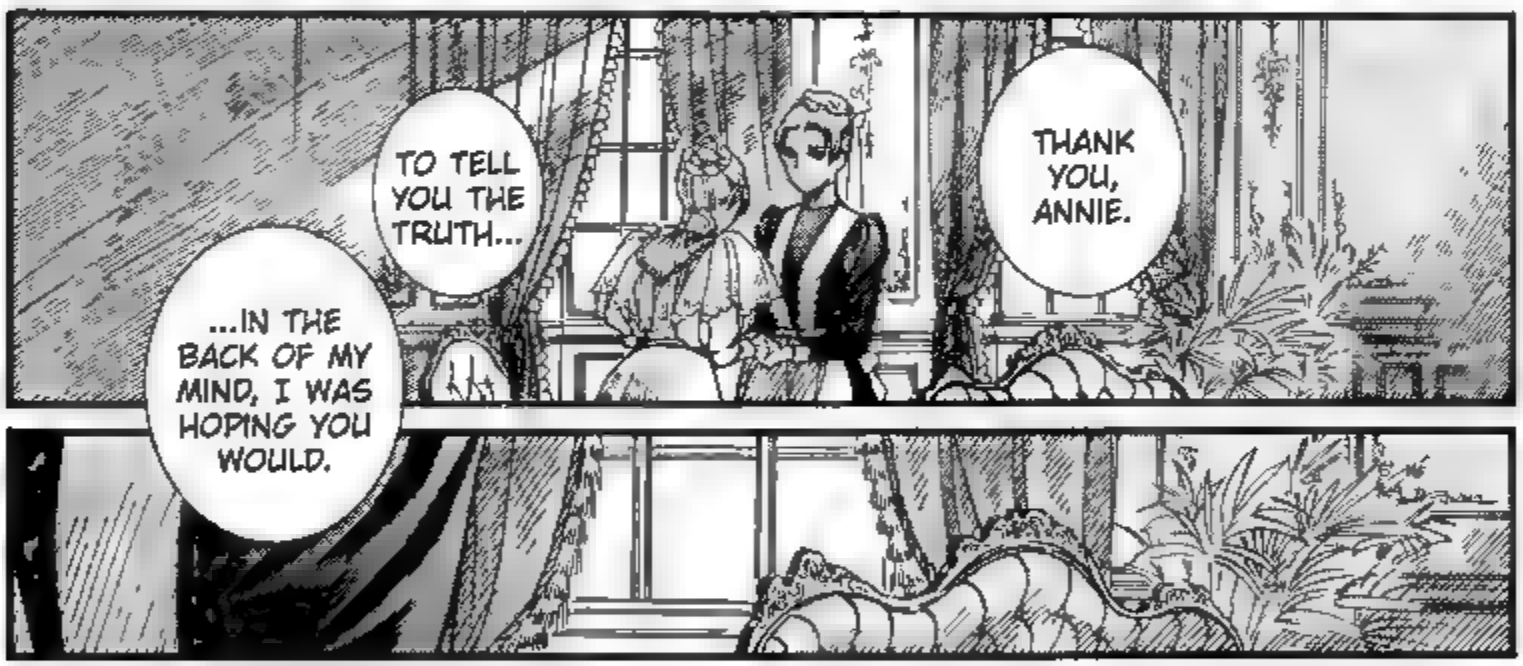
...A POSITION THAT I'VE BEEN CARRYING OUT FOR MANY A YEAR NOW.

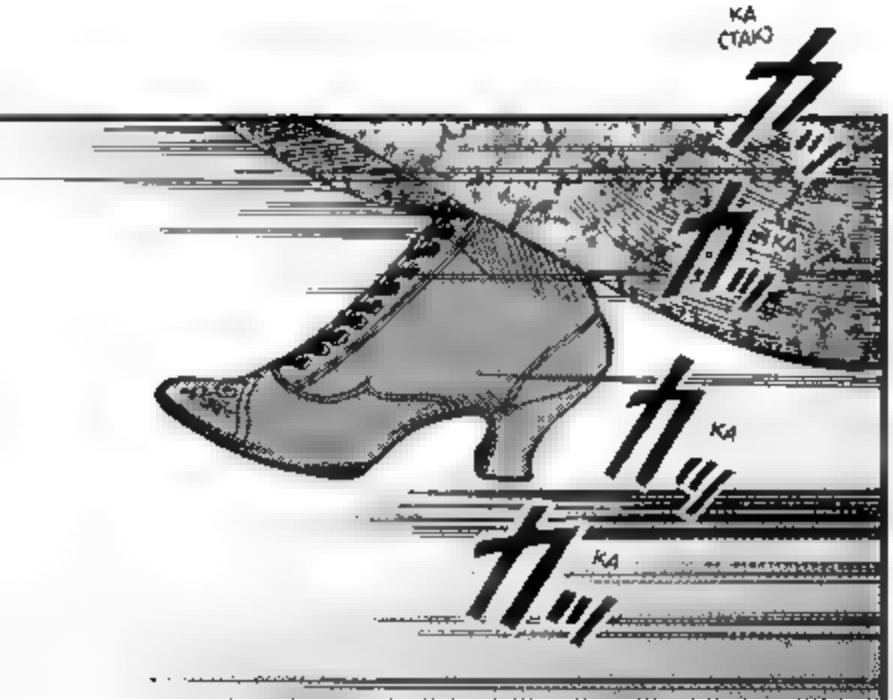
I...

...PLAN TO ASK MADAM'S PERMISSION, MISS.




SO IF I WOULDN'T BE A HINDRANCE TO YOU, MISS...
...I'D LIKE TO ACCOMPANY YOU.


TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...
...IN THE BACK OF MY MIND, I WAS HOPING YOU WOULD.
THANK YOU, ANNIE.


KA
CTAK
KA
KA
KA

WAIT!!

GRACE!

GRACE!

HEAR ME OUT!!

GRACE!!

WIL-LIAM!

I RECALL YOU MENTIONING BEFORE...

I HAVEN'T TOLD FATHER YET!!

DON'T SHOUT IT OUT LIKE THAT!!

.....

OH REALLY?

YOU HAVE A BEAU, DON'T YOU!?

THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER I TIE THE KNOT

THEN HURRY UP AND GET MARRIED MOVE OUT OF THE HOUSE

IF THINGS BETWEEN YOU AND HE ARE BECOMING UNCOMFORTABLE BECAUSE OF THE, ER, LAPSE OF TIME

GRACE

I'M SORRY

HE'S NOT THAT KIND OF MAN!

ARTHUR HAS ALREADY PLANNED HIS OWN DEPAR-TURE...

...LEAVING YOU...

...AS THE LAST ELIGIBLE MAN OF THE HOUSE.

I INTEND TO DO MY BEST TO ENSURE THAT YOU DON'T FALL INTO THE SAME STRAITS...

...BUT IF WORSE COMES TO WORST, YOU MAY HAVE TO TAKE OVER THE FAMILY BUSINESS.

COLIN.

YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT IT FOR NOW.

GO ON.

Chapter 51: End

Epilogue

OH, NOW!

IF THAT AIN'T THE PRETTIEST DOLLY I EVER DID SEE!

Y'SEE, IT'S JUST AS MOMMY SAID.

DO SOMETHIN' NICE FOR SOMEONE AN' IT'LL COME BACK TO YA.

IT CAME THIS MORNIN' FROM THE GENTLEMAN WITH THE TOP HAT.

HIS WAY OF SAYIN' THANKS.

A PRES-ENT?

WELL, GOOD FOR YOU, LITTLE MISSY!

BEAUTIFUL DOLL LIKE THAT'S MUCH BETTER'N A STIFF OL' HAT, EH?

AFTERWORD TAN-TA-DAHH! MANGA!!

FAREWELL, VIE DE FRANCE...

WE'RE NOT GOING TO LOSE OUT TO ANY MAID CAFÉ. ♡

TRIANON

HARRODS

MARLE

MICHELLE CHERDAN

AUNT STELLA

MATTER OF FACT, IF YOU STACK THEM IN A LINE, YOU MAY JUST BE ABLE TO TOPPLE 'EM LIKE DOMINOS!

THIS IS THE LAST VOLUME, SO IF YOU PUT 'EM ALL TOGETHER, IT'S LIKE YOU'VE GOT ONE HEAPING BOOK

THANK YOU FOR READING *EMMA* VOLUME SEVEN

HELLO, EVERYONE. MORI HERE.

FOUR AND A HALF YEARS.

THAT'S THE AVERAGE LIFESPAN OF A HAMSTER.

AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, HERE GO FOUR AND A HALF YEARS.

ONE DAY GOES BY QUICKLY.

ONE WEEK IS LONG.

ONE MONTH PASSES FAST

ONE YEAR FEELS LIKE IT GOES BY KIND OF SLOWLY.

WHEN CREATING SOMETHING TO BE PUBLISHED IN SERIALIZED FORM, TIME FEELS LIKE IT GOES BY FAST AND SLOW.

WAWAWAWA!

AND NOW WHEN I SEE A MAID ON *DREAM LIFE OPERETTA*, I'M THRILLED BECAUSE I STILL HAVE A THING FOR MAIDS!

UWAAAAAH!

WHEN I THINK BACK, IT WAS FOUR AND A HALF YEARS AGO THAT I SAW A MAID ON *GRANADA HOMES* AND WAS OVERJOYED JUST BECAUSE I HAD A THING FOR MAIDS BACK THEN.

SO ABSOLUTELY NOTHING HAS CHANGED.

THAT'S NOT TRUE!

BUT MAYBE YOU SHOULD HAVE CHANGED THE AFTERWORD FORMAT.

..THE MAID THAT APPEARS IN RICHARD HEUBERGER'S *DER OPERNBALL*.

I'M READY TO WRAP HIM RIGHT AROUND MY FINGER!

THAT ASIDE, I LOVE THE PERSONALITY OF HORTENSE...

MAKING REVISIONS AND CORRECTIONS WITH ZIP-TONES, ETC. BEFORE THEY BECOME COLLECTED INTO A VOLUME.

PILE OF ENVELOPES

BY THE WAY, WHEN I WAS LOOKING OVER THE PAGES FOR THIS VOLUME...

FRIENDS AFTER A FASHION

HAKIM'S GIRL + MONICA'S GIRL

...IS WHAT I NOTICED FOR THE FIRST TIME...

...AND I FELL INTO AN INDESCRIB-ABLE MOOD

WHY DID I DRAW ALL THESE HAIRS AND HANDS WITH SUCH DETAIL?

THE LOVERS' DEFAULT POSE IN THE EARLY VICTORIAN PERIOD— "SITTING ON HIS LAP"

THE ELDER OF WILLIAM'S YOUNGER BROTHERS

WHIMSICAL, INSCRUTABLE, ALWAYS HAS ONE OR MORE ODD WOMEN IN TOW. PEOPLE LIKE THIS FELLOW REALLY DO EXIST.

ARTHUR + HAKIM

HOW ABOUT A HINT AS TO MY NEXT PLAN?

PANDAS WOULD'VE BEEN PERFECT IF ONLY THEY HAD A SMIDGE MORE BLACK TO THEM.

SO CLOSE YET SO FAR.

AND SO, *EMMA* SAFELY COMES TO CLOSE.

I WANNA DO MORE STORIES SET IN THE *EMMA*-VERSE

ERM...

ALL RIGHT, LET'S MEET AGAIN WHEN I DO THE SIDE STORIES!

FARE THEE WELL! FARE THEE WELL!

HEY!

...OR THIS CHARACTER AND THAT CHARACTER IN THE MAIN SERIES!!

I NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO DRAW THIS PLACE AND THAT THING...

IT'D BE BETTER TO STOP IT NOW, BUT...

THE END

EMMA ⑦

KAORU MORI

TRANSLATION: SHELDON DRZKA

LETTERING: ABIGAIL BLACKMAN

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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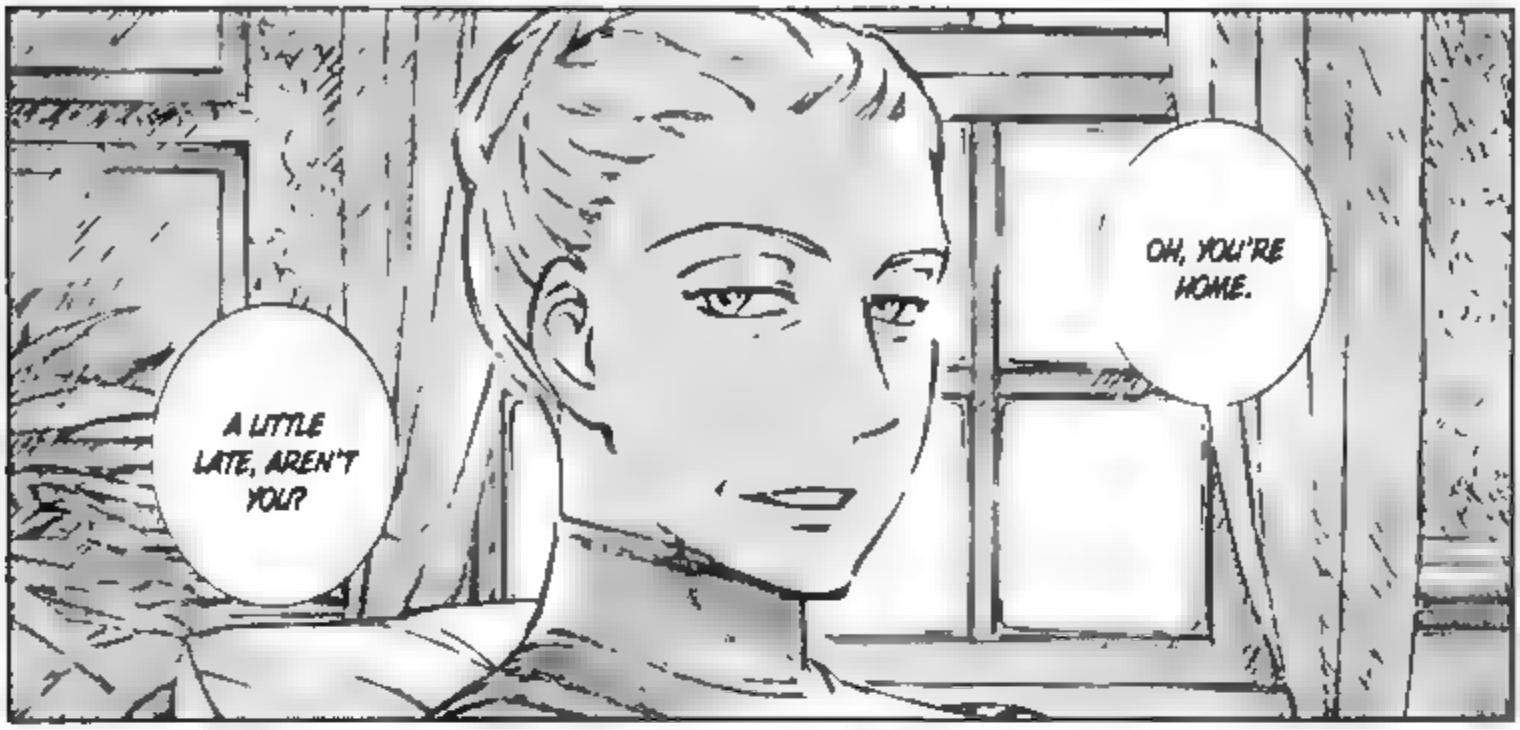
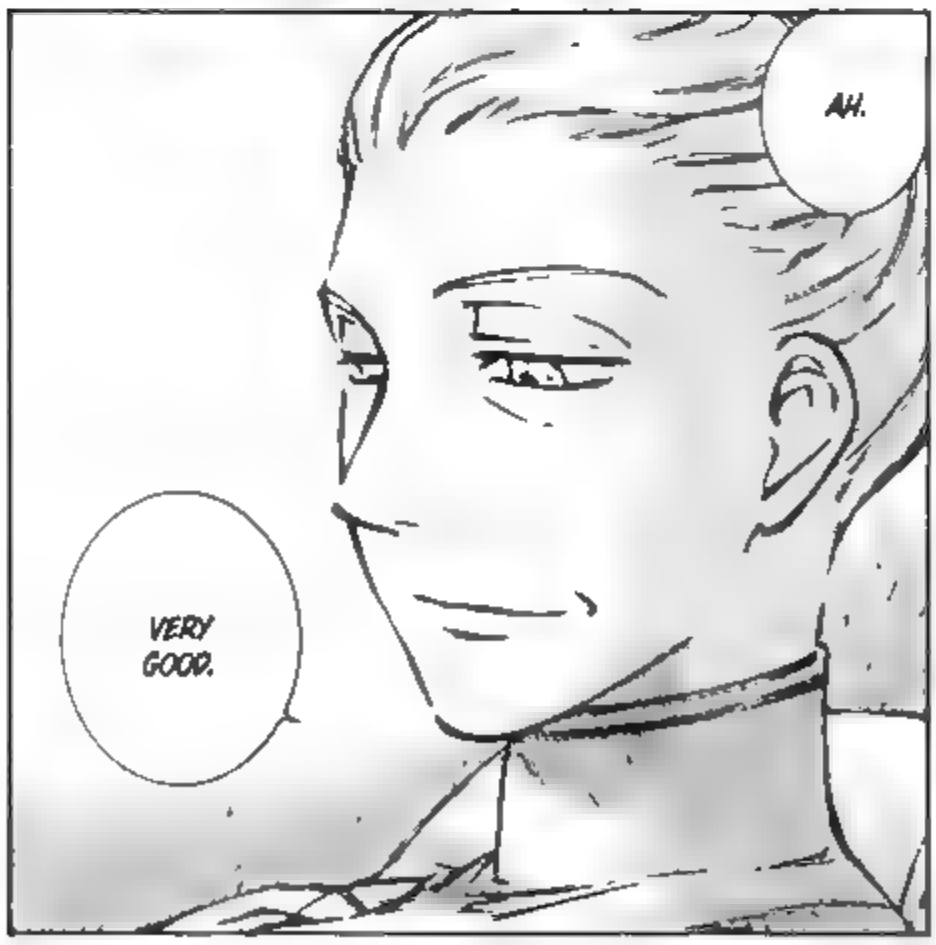

A LITTLE LATE, AREN'T YOU?
OH, YOU'RE HOME.

DID YOU DELIVER IT?
WHAT ABOUT THE LETTER?

I'M SORRY, MA'AM.


VERY GOOD.
AH.

YES.

The Final Chapter:
The Blessed Flowers

.....

I BELIEVE...

...MRS. STOWNER KNEW FROM THE BEGINNING.

YES, WELL...

.....

I TOO...

...THOUGHT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE.

...HOW CAN I PUT IT?

MY FORMER GOVERNESS WAS...

SHE WAS ALWAYS CORRECT.

AL, SIR!!

THAT WAS MY INTENTION AT THE TIME...

...BUT A LOT'S HAPPENED SINCE THEN.

HUH.

I THOUGHT YOU'D MOVED BACK TO YOUR 'OME-TOWN.

OH.

OHH...

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.

I MET YOUNG MASTER JONES...

...ONCE BEFORE.

THANK YOU...

...FOR YOUR KINDNESS ON THAT OCCASION.

UM, THIS...

...IS MRS. STOWNER'S FORMER PUPIL.

I KNOW.

.....

BUT...

...THAT'S THE PLAN.

OH...

YOU TWO'VE GOTTEN 'ITCHED, 'AVE YOU?

NO.

NOT YET.

WELL, LIFE SURE IS UNPRE-DICTABLE.

I MESELF SAID THE PAIR OF YE...

...DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE OF MAKIN' IT WORK.

BUT WHAT DO I KNOW?

EXCEPT THAT KELLY WANTED YE TO BE TOGETHER. I THINK 'ER 'EART WAS SET ON IT.

YOU TWO ARE A PRIME EXAMPLE OF THAT.

DO YOU .

.OFTEN COME HERE?

SO LONG.

WELL, GOOD LUCK.

UM...

CUTTIN' THROUGH 'ERE'S THE FASTEST WAY TO THE PUB.

SHALL WE GO?

YES.

BE THAT AS IT MAY...

...HER OVER-POWERING PRESENCE SURVIVED BEYOND THE GRAVE.

I WONDER HOW...

AH, YOU'RE BACK.

I'M SORRY THINGS HERE AREN'T QUITE... SETTLED.

PERHAPS I SHOULD..

NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT.

SOMETIMES IT'S BETTER TO HEAR NEWS FROM A THIRD PARTY.

HOW IS FATHER?

AS DIFFICULT AS EVER.

...WILL YOU WAIT?

YES.

LET ME TRY TALKING TO HIM A LITTLE MORE.

I DON'T KNOW IF HE'LL AGREE WITH ME OR NOT, BUT...

OH.

ARTHUR.

THIS IS MY YOUNGER BROTHER, ARTHUR.

...THIS IS MISS EMMA.

ARTHUR ...

.....

PLEASE, TRY TO FORGIVE ME...

...FOR ACTING ABOVE MY SOCIAL STANDING.

I'M DREAD-FULLY SORRY.

SAY SOME-THING.

SAY WHAT?

TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY...

...I WILL AVOID BEING A HINDRANCE TO YOU AND TO YOUR FAMILY.

.....

...I DON'T ESPECIALLY CARE ABOUT THAT.

ARTHUR!

I'VE GOT TO STUDY.

THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S HER!

THAT'S THE MAID WHO WAS HERE BEFORE!!

WAIT!

COLIN!!

SHE PLOTTED THE WHOLE THING OUT!

BUT I'VE SEEN THROUGH HER SCHEME!!

THAT WOMAN IS WICKED!!

COLIN'S THE YOUNG-EST.

THAT'S RIGHT.

YES. I REMEMBER SEEING HIM LAST TIME.

OH.

YOUR OTHER BROTHER.

HELLO.

WHAT'S WRONG, COLIN?

.....

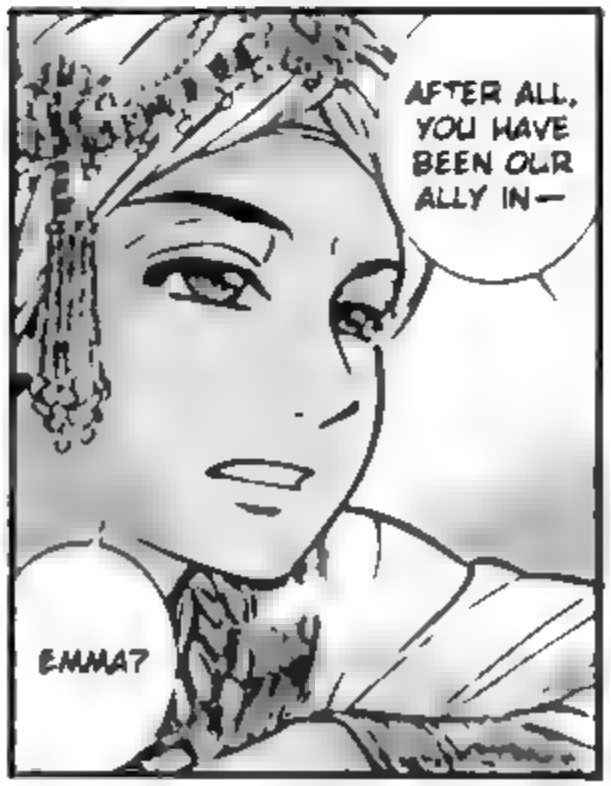
WHAT IS IT?

AGAIN...?

HAKIM!
ARE YOU IN HERE?

JUST THOUGHT I'D INFORM YOU.
MISS EMMA IS HERE.

EH?
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?


EMMA?
AFTER ALL, YOU HAVE BEEN OUR ALLY IN—

THOSE CLOTHES LOOK SPLENDID ON YOU TOO.

OH...

HAKIM...

HAKIM, WAIT!

WHERE ARE YOU...?

チッ!!!

CHA OKCHAIO

I'M JUST GOING TO TALK.

WAIT IN HERE.

.....

UM...

I SEE.

YES.

OF COURSE YOU HAVE.

YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE SO IN THE BEGINNING, SAVED YOURSELVES SOME TROUBLE.

...YES.

SO YOU'VE COME TO SOME SORT OF AGREE-MENT WITH WILLIAM?

EMMA.

WHEN YOU GET TIRED OF WILLIAM, COME TO ME.

I CAN'T FORESEE GETTING... "TIRED" OF HIM.

WELL, IF YOU DO, COME TO ME.

I'VE REFUSED YOU BEFORE...

THAT IS OF NO SIGNIFI-CANCE.

BUT AFTER THINGS SOUR—

I-I CAN'T DO THAT.

AND WHY NOT?

RIGHT NOW, YOU AND HE ARE GETTING ALONG WELL.

THAT'S FINE.

.....

BUT...

...I DON'T EVEN KNOW...

...WHERE YOU LIVE.

.....

ASK WILLIAM.

...ALL RIGHT.

I GIVE YOU UP GRUDG-INGLY.

WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU DOING!?

HAKIM!

AREN'T YOU DONE YE—

I TOLD HER TO COME TO ME...

...WHEN SHE BECOMES WEARY OF YOU.

YOU NEVER KNOW.

THAT...

THAT WILL...

...NEVER HAPPEN ...

...I THINK.

DO WE HAVE A GUEST?

THE MAID...

...WHO CAME HERE BEFORE.

THEN...

...THE MATTER WITH ELEANOR ...

EH?

WAIT...

WAIT A MOMENT.

SEEMS HE HADN'T GIVEN UP ON HER AFTER ALL.

WHY DON'T YOU MEET HER?

OH, HOW CAN I!?

THAT'S HARDLY THE ISSUE!!

APPARENTLY THERE WAS NOTHING BETWEEN THEM AT THE TIME HE BECAME ENGAGED TO ELEANOR, BUT..

HOW!?

HOW CAN HE BE SO DECISIVE ONLY WHEN IT COMES TO GOING AGAINST THE GRAIN!?

.....

HOW DO YOU KNOW!?

EVERYONE EXCEPT FATHER KNOWS ABOUT IT.

MAYBE I WILL JUST GO AND GET MARRIED!

WITHOUT EVEN ASKING FATHER?

HE JUST CAN'T DO IT RIGHT NOW.

MY HUSBAND DOES UNDER-STAND.

.....

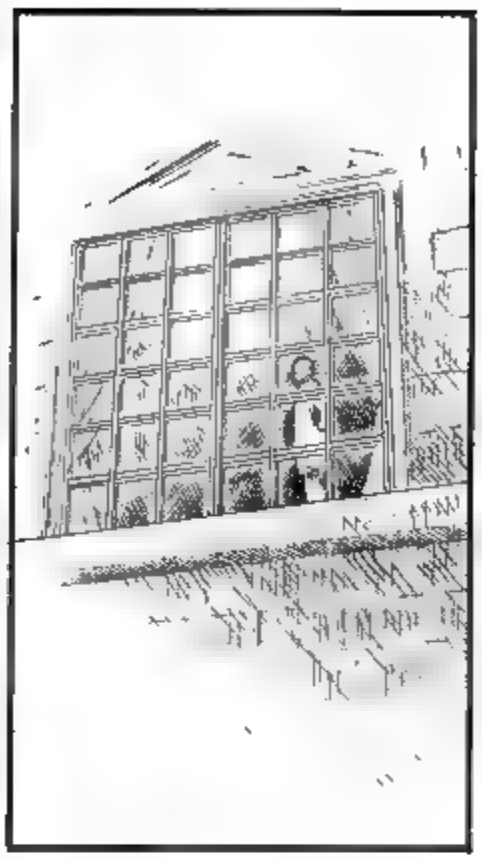
I DO APOLOGISE.

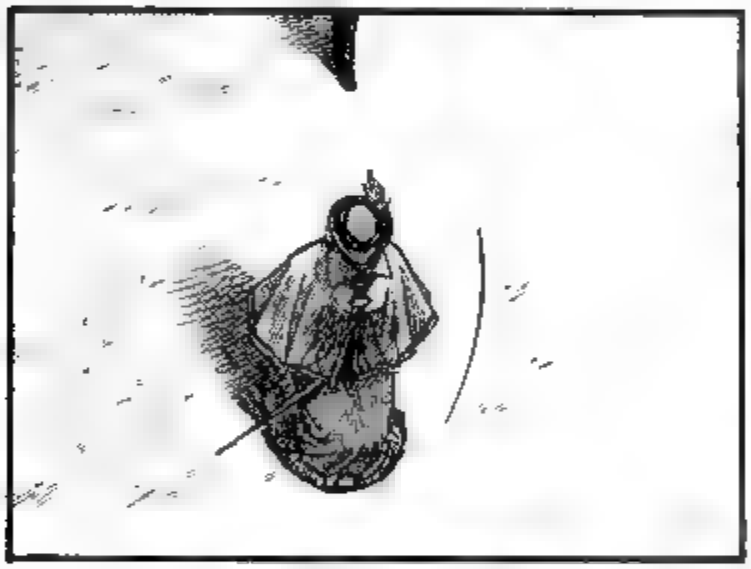
THINK NOTH-ING OF IT.

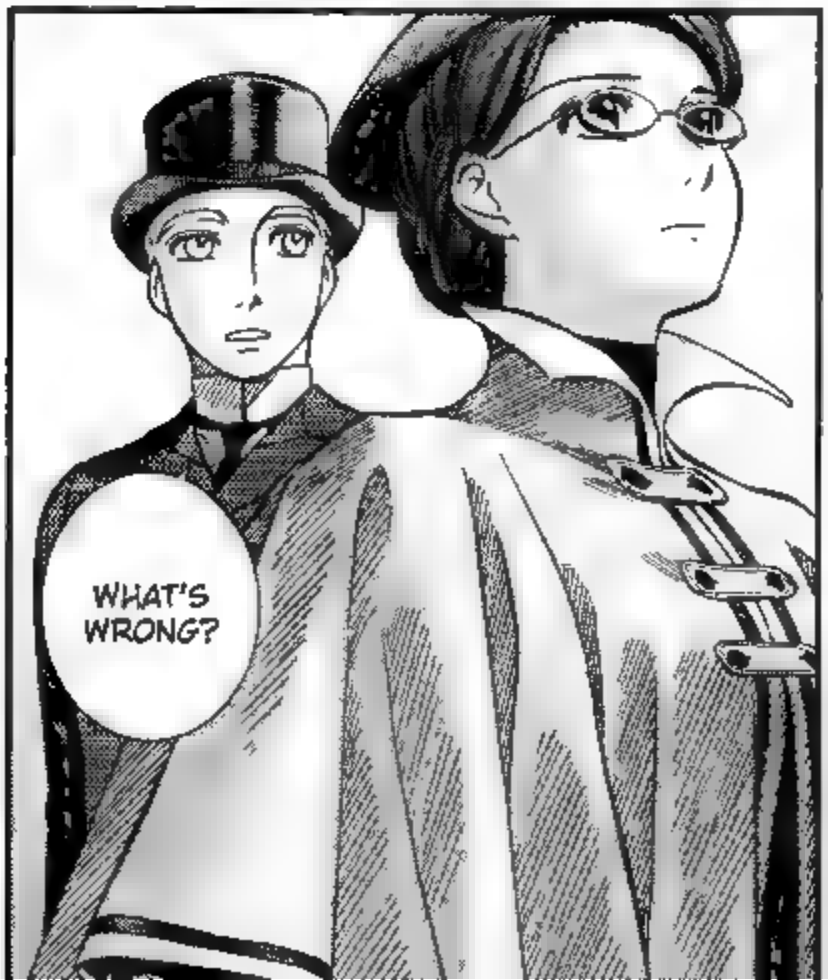
SO A LITTLE...

...AT A TIME.

HE CAN'T AVOID YOU FOREVER, THOUGH.






WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU SHOULD MEET HER.

I WON'T.

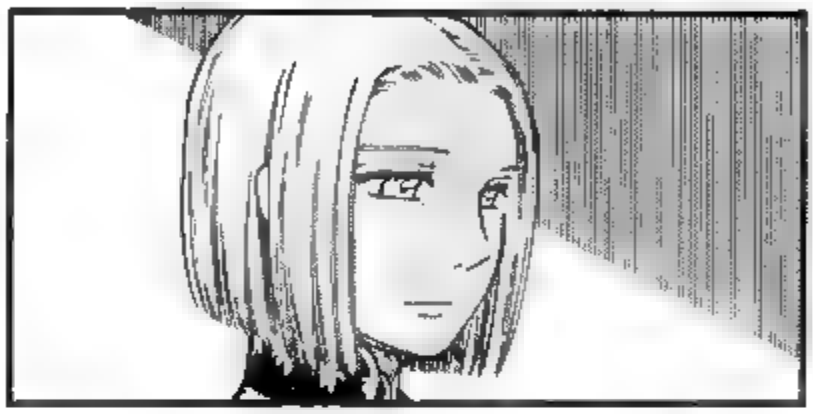
IS THAT RIGHT?

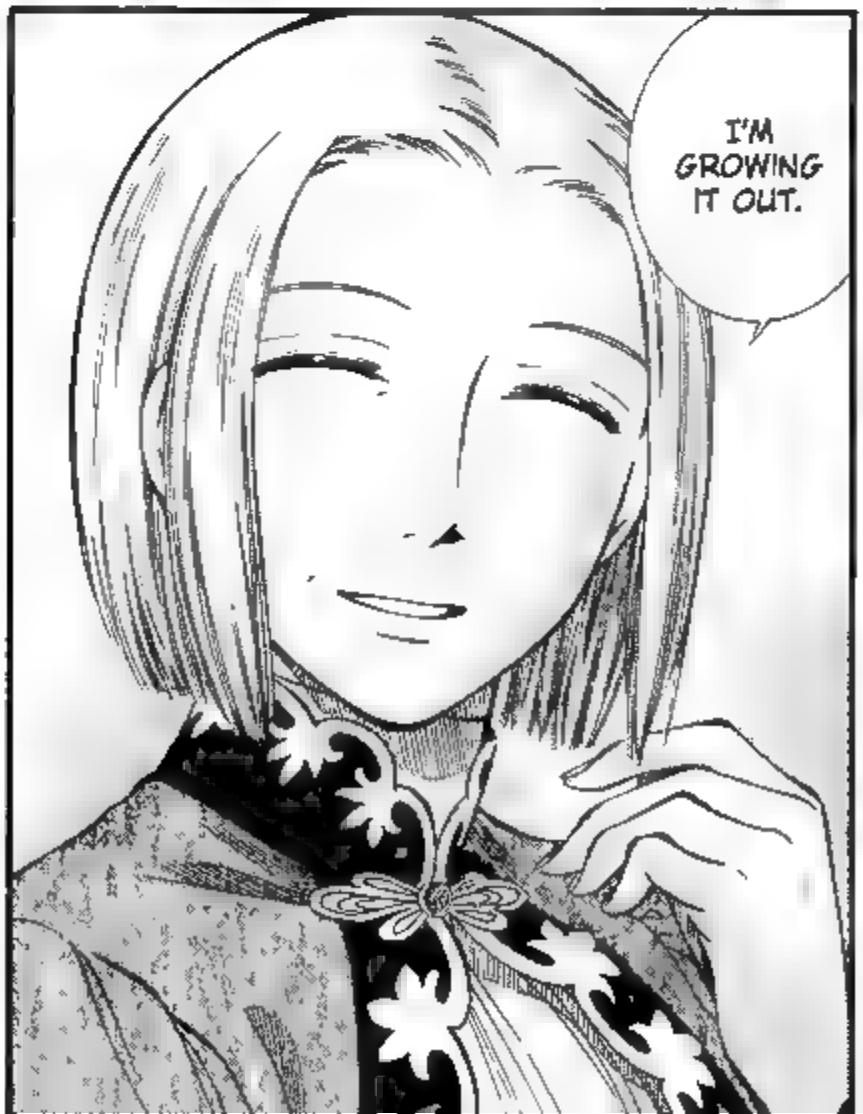
WE'RE GOING BACK...

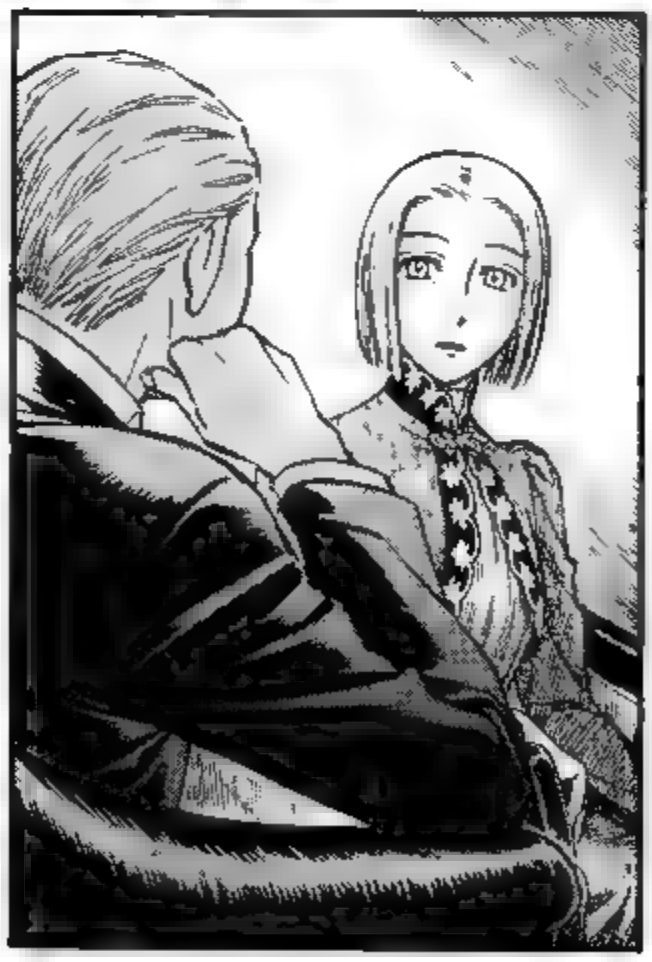
...TO MY HOME TOMOR-ROW.

.....

I LIKE YOUR HAIR BETTER LONG.




I'M GROWING IT OUT.



YES, MA'AM.

TAKING CARE WITH ONE'S APPEARANCE IS ONE OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF BEING A LADY...

...SO LOOK CAREFULLY AND LEARN TO MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES.

YOU DO UNDER-STAND.

THIS IS NO GAME.

I WAS VERY PARTICULAR WITH THE ORDER THIS TIME!

LOVELY, ISN'T IT!?

OH, LOOK AT THAT COLOUR!

I'M SO EXCITED!!

...UNDER-GARMENTS AS WELL?

WHY, YES.

OF COURSE.

WELL, YOU CERTAINLY HAVE A FIRM HANDLE ON THE WHOLE PROCESS.

AND NOT ONLY THAT! LOOK, THE LATEST CATALOGUE FROM PARIS!

.....

ACTUALLY, I DEBATED GOING WITH HONITON LACE...

OH, BUT THIS IS GORGEOUS.

HONESTLY, I CAN UNDRESS MYSELF!!

NO! I...

I CAN DO IT MYSELF!!

OFF WITH IT!

COME ON, NOW!

WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER!

FIRST, SHE'S GOING TO GET THIS ON...

I HOPE MY ACCESSORIES WILL DO.

THEY'LL BE WONDERFUL.

UM...

EITHER WILL DO!!

WHICH COLOUR DO YOU LIKE?

WAIT A MINUTE. WE'D BETTER ASK HER OPINION TOO.

I ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY THIS MATERIAL.

THE FAN IS LOVELY TOO, ISN'T IT?

WHAT ABOUT THE SHOES...?

WHICH PAIR OF GLOVES DO YOU PREFER?

WHO'S THE HOSTESS TONIGHT?

WHITE IS ALWAYS SAFE, BUT...

YES. WE'RE NOT VERY WELL ACQUAINTED ...

...BUT TONIGHT'S BALL SHOULD BE OPTIMUM FOR A "PRACTICE RUN."

OH, HER!

DO YOU KNOW HER?

A...

... PRACTICE RUN?

ARE WE DONE?

LET ME HAVE A LOOK AT HER.

SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO IN WORRYING ABOUT THAT.

THE HOSTESS IS FRIENDLY, A VERY EASY WOMAN TO TALK TO.

THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR A FRESH FACE.

AND THE GUESTS OF A BALL AREN'T FIXED.

LOVELY.

ISN'T SHE SIMPLY DARLING?

WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT SCENT?

I'VE ASSEMBLED A WHOLE ARRAY HERE, BUT...

UM...

CAN'T I WEAR A SHAWL OVER THIS OR...?

HOH HOH HOH HOH!

NO, NO, NO! I'M COUNTING ON THAT VOLUPTUOUS FIGURE TO ENCHANT THE MALE ATTENDEES!

HE'LL FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU ALL OVER AGAIN.

I DON'T THINK A MUSKY SCENT WOULD DO EITHER.

YOU DON'T SMELL THAT SO MUCH THESE DAYS...

ROCOCO?

MMM, I THINK SOMETHING DIFFERENT IS CALLED FOR.

I SUPPOSE ROSES ARE TOO PLAIN.

VILLA VIOLETA.

BELLE DE FRANCE.

CIPRICIN.

YOU DON'T THINK IT'S TOO OLD-FASHIONED?

IT WAS POPULAR WHEN I WAS YOUNG, BUT...

SOME THINGS ARE TIME-LESS.

EH?

NO, I JUST...

YOU LIKE THAT ONE?

THAT MIGHT BE IT!

AH, LILY OF THE VALLEY!

SHALL WE GO WITH THIS ONE?
YES.
IT'S DECIDED, THEN.
IT HAS A MUCH NICER SCENT THAN TODAY'S SYNTHETIC PERFUMES.
AND THERE'S A CERTAIN AIR ABOUT IT THAT FITS.
WATCH YOUR STEP.
COME IN.

YOUR COAT.

.....

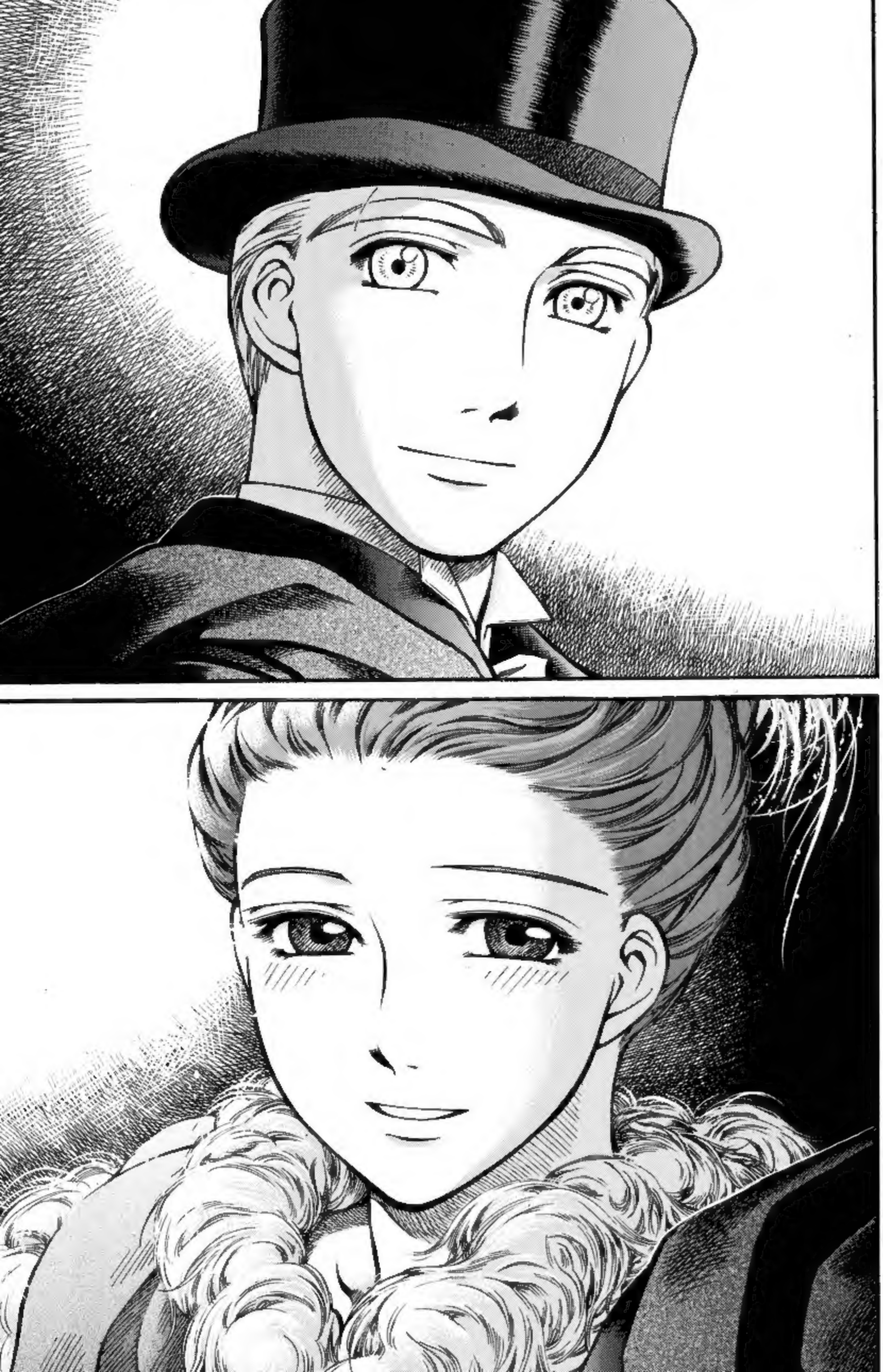
PER-FUME.

LILY OF THE VALLEY.

THAT SCENT.

I SEE...

LILY OF THE VALLEY...



Kaoru Mori's
Emma, The end.